THE Shakerite

Shaker Heights High School • 15911 Aldersyde Drive • Shaker Heights, OH 44120

Vol. 62 **September 27, 1991** Issue 1

INSIDE...

Football breaks 17-game losing streak

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School renovates cafeteria, pool

BY JAMIL SMITH
Co-News Editor

In an attempt to improve the student environment and make full use of existing facilities, renovations costing more than $180,000 were completed this summer.

The cafeteria was remodeled at a cost of $135,000, according to principal Jack Rumbaugh. Rumbaugh said that the renovation of the cafeteria, which included carpeting and new tables and chairs, also included ceiling and floor tiles which absorb sound to create a quieter lunchroom environment.

"I do believe that the student body will appreciate the new cafeteria space," Rumbaugh said.

Tenth grade unit principal Richard Vlah said that the changes were needed to better the students' experience in the cafeteria.

"(The cafeteria) needed revitalizing," Vlah said. "That other stuff had been in there for a long time. It was done for the students so they could have a more pleasant surrounding."

According to a survey of 236 students (see p. 2), over three-quarters of the students approved of the changes in the cafeteria. However, only a slight majority said that the alterations enhance their lunch period.

"I think that the new change provides a nice atmosphere for lunch time," sophomore Lindsay Marsh said.

Sophomore Shalimar Lashley-Haynes disagreed.

"I don't see the purpose of spending money on the carpet when kids are just going to ruin it," Lashley-Haynes said. "The money could have been used for something else."

Despite the carpet's modular design, which allows for convenient cleaning of small sections, there have been complaints by cafeteria workers pertaining to the carpet.

"It's really hard to clean," cafeteria worker Alfreida Livingston said. "The carpet's sections are hard to pull up and they have to be scrubbed clean also."

A slight majority of the students surveyed believed that the money that was used for the cafeteria should have been used for air conditioning for the entire school. Rumbaugh said that the possibility of air conditioning for the whole building was not feasible for a number of reasons.

"Cafeteria renovation is inexpensive compared to what air conditioning would have cost. A quarter of the school is already air-conditioned. Air conditioining would be unbelievably expensive," Rumbaugh said.

Rumbaugh added that he believed that students were more racially dispersed than ever before as a result of the renovated lunchroom.

"We all want to see a mixing of kids in the cafeteria," Rumbaugh said.

Due to a lack of use and what Rumbaugh called "serious mechanical problems," the high school swimming pool is being renovated to create a new multi-purpose area.

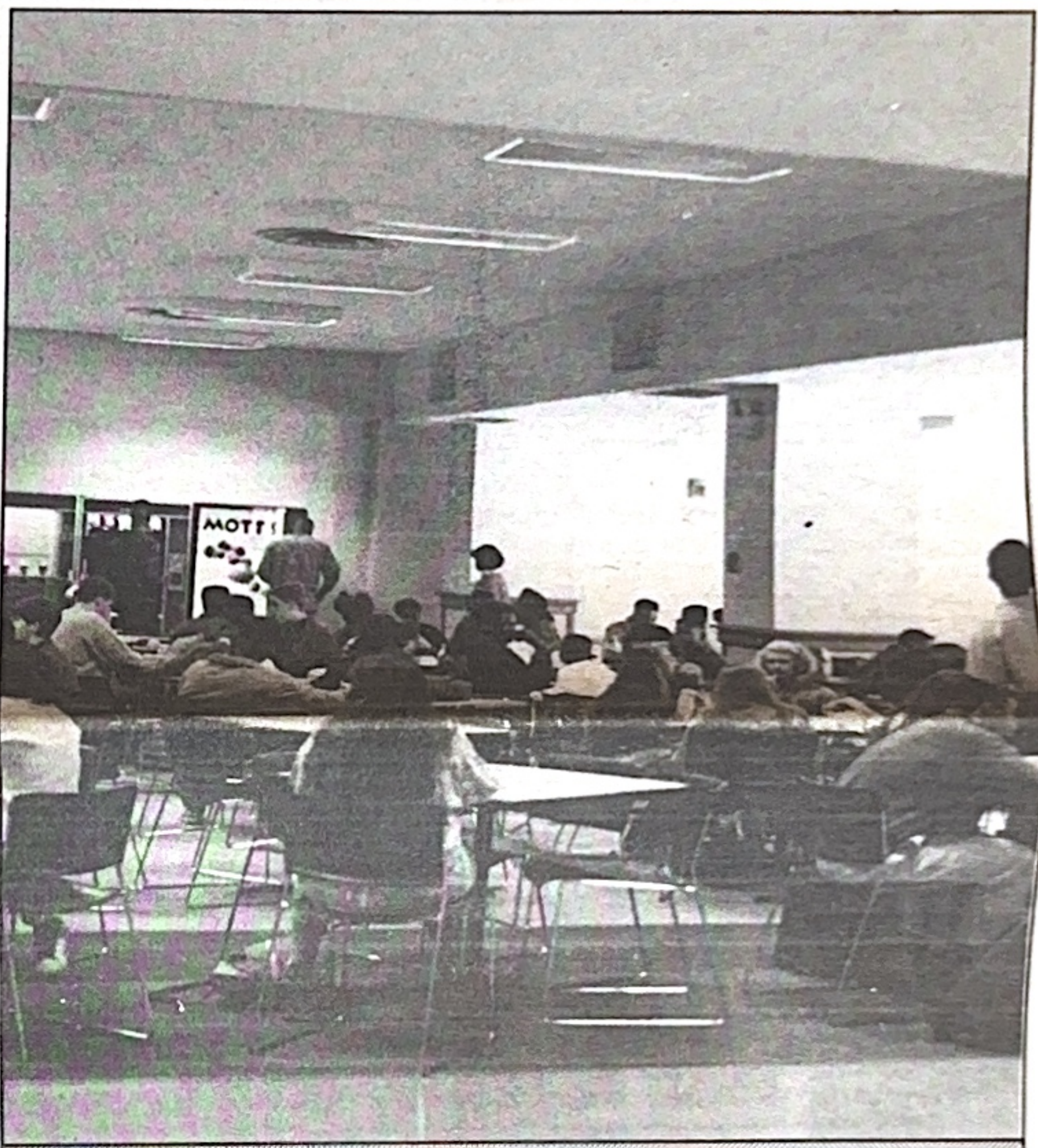
According to Rumbaugh, the Olympic-size pools at Woodbury Elementary and at the middle school provide more than adequate facilities.

The present pool and deck will be turned into a wooden floor, while the bleachers inside will remain.

Rumbaugh added that in the mornings, the new room will be used for physical education activities such as wrestling, volleyball and indoor tennis.

Rumbaugh said that the theatre department will have the use of the multi-purpose room in the afternoons.

"Now we have picked up much potential use for the large auditorium by giving the theatre department a defined space," Rumbaugh said.



EATING IN STYLE Hungry students feast in the newly-rennovated cafeteria. Aside from the new tables and chairs, the cafeteria now includes the high-tech Stainmaster carpet. *Photo by Jason Hamilton*

24 qualify as National Merit semifinalists

BY AHMAD ATWAN
Co-News Editor

Ranking first in Ohio among public and private schools and sixth nationally among public nonselective high schools, the class of '92 includes 24 National Merit Semifinalists.

In addition, thirteen students were recognized as commended scholars, while three were named National Achievement Scholars, an award given to minority students.

The number of Shaker semifinalists was the highest in the past decade, according to Board of Education records.

"The high number [of National Merit Semifinalists] is unbelievably great for Shaker parents and teachers," said principal Jack Rumbaugh. "However, I must warn the students that it is not a fair way to evaluate the school. It is just one of many factors involved.

Semifinalists are chosen based on PSAT scores. Students who qualify must then fill out an application similar to a college application in order to be considered for a scholarshiip. An essay and counselor recommendation are also required.

Academic history, awards and activities are also taken into consideration when applying for scholarships. Students must subsequently take the SAT to confirm their PSAT scores.

The names of the commended students are sent to the colleges to which they are applying in order to help with their admission.

Seniors had mixed emotions regarding the high number of National Merit Semifinalists.

"I was surprised by the number of semifinalists because we have such a small class," said semifinalist Ted Folkman. "It's kind of scary, because when we apply to colleges, it will be much more competitive due to the number of scholars."

Guidance department head Eileen Blattner holds a different view on the high number of semifinalists.

"I'm not surprised that we did this well. Shaker is an outstanding academic high school," Blattner said.

Semifinalist and National Achievement Scholarship recipient Tracey Guice was pleased at her achievements.

"I am happy and proud of being named a semifinalist. I hope I can now win a scholarship," Guice said.

Semifinalist Jay Marston was also surprised at the number of scholars.

"I was surprised that so many of my friends were semifinalists and commended scholars, especially in such a small class," Marston said.

The 24 semifinalists in the National Merit Scholarship Competition include Michael Altose, Adam Axler, Carol Chung, Michael Feuer, Ted Folkman, Ray Graves, Tracey Guice, Chris Hunter, Shelby Hyvonen, Erica Jacobs, Chris Jones, Jeremy Kahn, Martha Libman, Evan Makela, Jennifer Margulies, Jonathan Marston, Peter Murray, Robert Nix, Joshua Schmitz, Kathryn Schulz, Daniel Sorin, Stuart Spivack, Jeff Stear and Michelle Stevens.

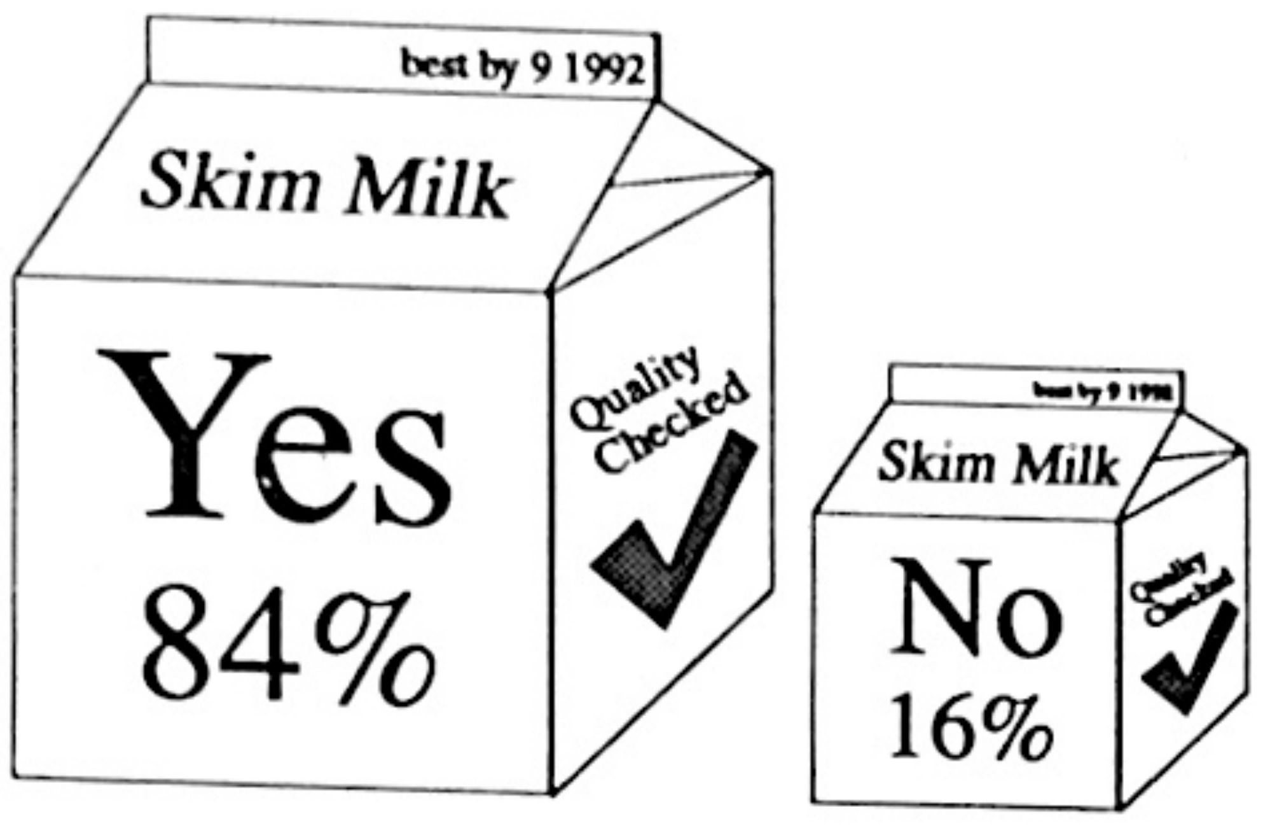
The National Achievement Semifinalists are Lesly Blanton, Tracey Guice and Victoria True.

[See p. 2 for list of Commended Scholars.]

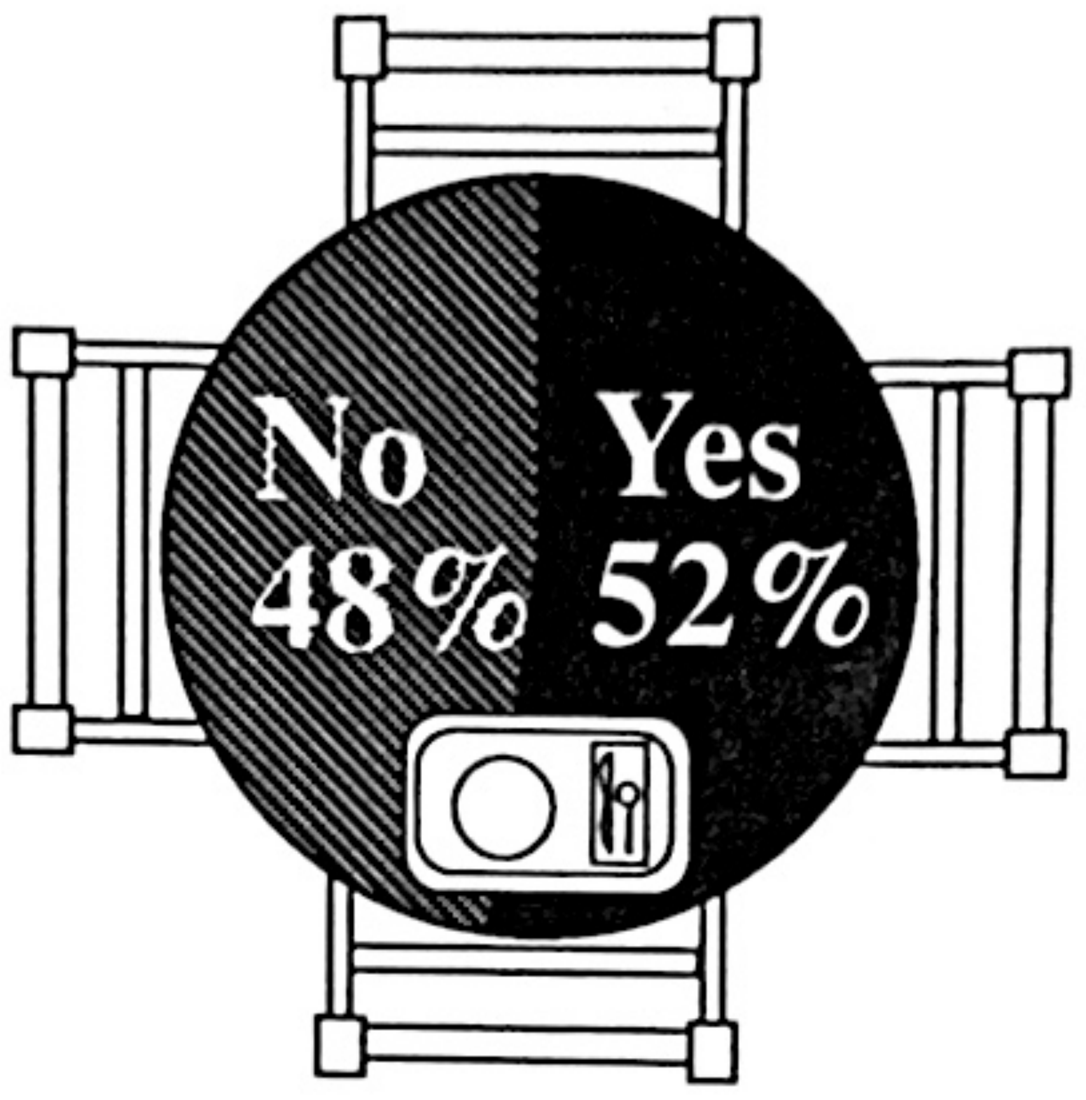
Ditch the bin PAGE 6 / **Sheriff Fat Man** PAGE 7 / **Animals!** PAGE 8

Students respond to survey regarding changes in the school

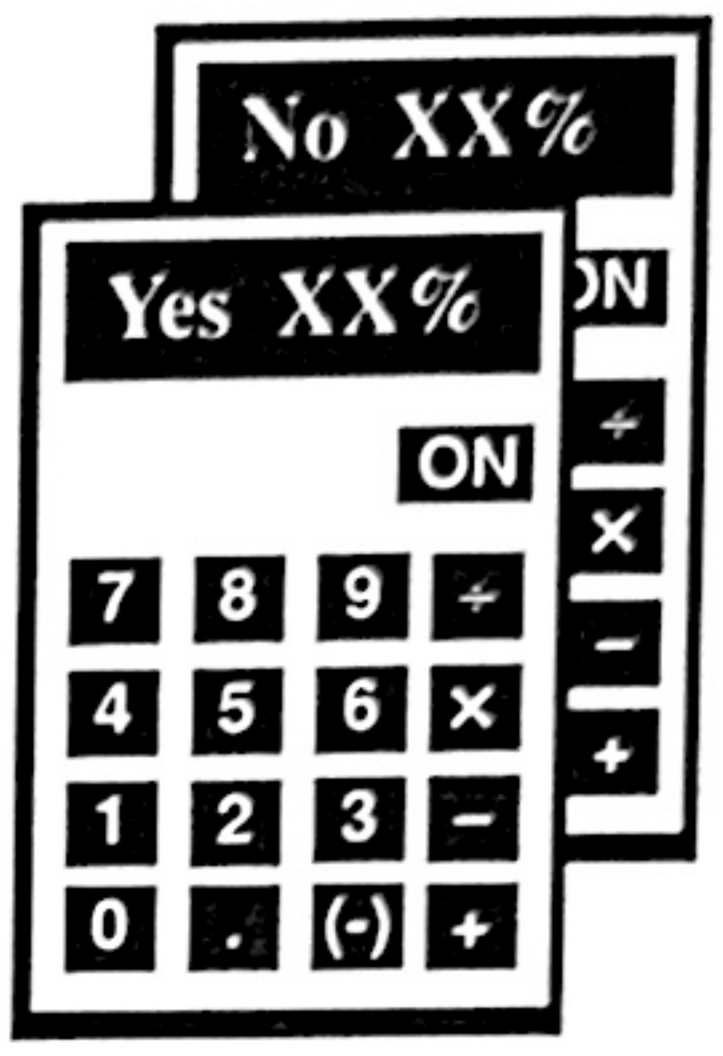
Source: Shakerite survey of 238 students



Do you approve of the changes in the cafeteria?



Do you believe that the changes in the cafeteria have made your lunch period enjoyable?



Do you believe that the newly-issued school calculators are worth the $45,000 which was spent on them?

Level changes draw mixed opinions

BY TOM FINCH
Staff Reporter

Teachers and administrators hold different opinions as to the effectiveness of last year's decision to weigh General Education and College Preparatory classes equally in the G.P.A. weighing system.

The idea for General Education and College Preparatory classes having the same quality points came from the Faculty Achievement Committee, Mary Lynne McGovern, Academic Adviser and Chairwoman of the committee said. Following discussion meetings, a ballot was approved by 75 percent of the faculty. The policy went into effect at the beginning of last year.

"[The committee] felt that giving lower quality points to the students of General Education classes perpetuated a feeling of underachievement," said McGovern. "Many students in the General Education classes worked very hard; however, even if a student had straight A's, he or she had almost no chance of getting above a 3.5 GPA."

Teachers involved in the General Education program have differing opinions as to the new policy's effectiveness within the student body.

"We in the science department have noticed the students of the General Education classes to be more responsive this year," said science teacher Mary Nackley. "Whether or not it is due to the change, I can't tell. However, it seems to be a step in the right direction."

> ***"I don't know if the [General Education] students' performance has changed in the classroom, but I do know that the attitude has changed. Perhaps it is because General Education students now realize that they are potential college students, just like other students in other classes."***
>
> ***—Ruben Henderson***

Social Studies teacher Ruben Henderson has a similar opinion regarding the level changes.

"I don't know if the students' performance has changed in the classroom, but I do know that the attitude has changed," said Henderson. "Perhaps it is because General Education students now realize that they are potential college students, just like other students in other classes."

"The response from the students has been different. I get a different feeling," Henderson said.

Some teachers feel that it is too early in the year to tell if students' performance and attitudes have been affected.

"It's hard to tell after only four weeks of school if the students' performance is different," said math teacher Lori White. "However, I feel that General Education students shouldn't be penalized for choosing the classes they did."

"It's really too early in the year to tell if there is any difference," said English teacher Holly Burgess.

Administrators also have opinions regarding the decision.

"I'm glad we did it," said principal Jack Rumbaugh. "It seems to be the right thing. I think there's more equity, and [the decision] took away the signal to the students in the General Education classes that they were of lesser value. However, we are always watching and making improvements."

Overall, McGovern commented that she is very satisfied with the decision to revise the G.P.A. weighing system.

"Looking back, I feel that we went through a process that was valid and permitted the faculty to have a say in the final decision," said McGovern. "Students who were affected are being served better by having a standard grade weighting."

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National Merit Scholar

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RAY GRAVES,
TRACEY GUICE,
CHRIS HUNTER,
SHELBY HYVONEN,
ERICA JACOBS,
CHRIS JONES,
JEREMY KAHN,
MARTHA LIBMAN,
EVAN MAKELA,
JENNIFER MARGULIES,
JONATHAN MARSTON,
PETER MURRAY,
ROBERT NIX,
JOSHUA SCHMITZ,
KATHRYN SCHULZ,
DANIEL SORIN,
STUART SPIVACK,
JEFF STEAR,
MICHELLE STEVENS

National Achievement Semifinalists

LESLY BLANTON,
TRACEY GUICE,
VICTORIA TRUE

Commended Scholars

AHMAD ATWAN,
JESSICA DELBAUM,
DAMON FRANK,
JEFFREY GLASER,
ANN LINDSTROM,
KEVIN MENDELSOHN,
TANIA MENESSE,
JEFFREY MICHEL,
JUDITH MILLER,
ERIC RICKIN,
JENNIFER RUBINS,
MICHELLE STONE,
VICTORIA TRUE

Library bans bookbags due to book thefts

THE BRIEFS

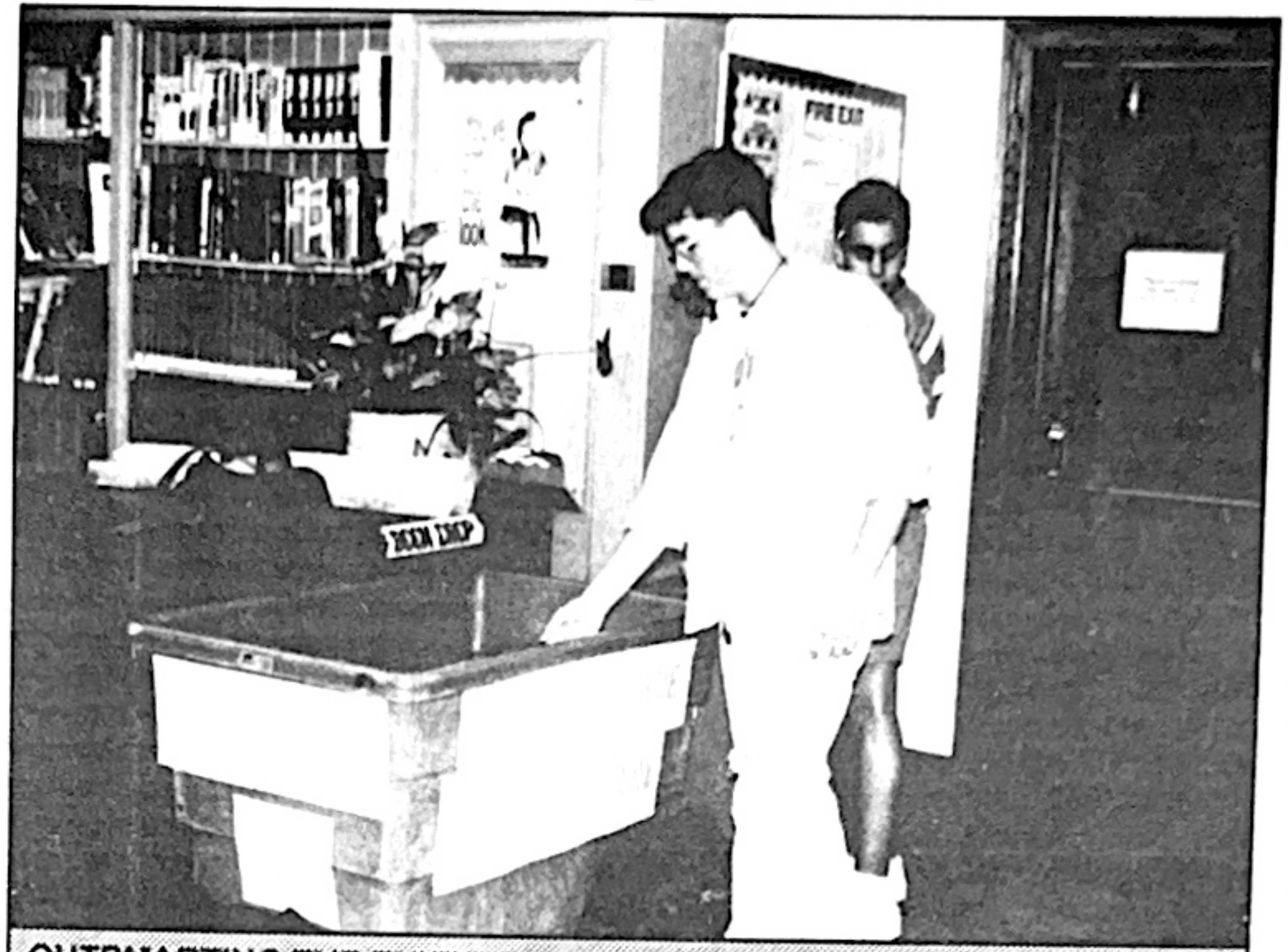
The library instituted a policy of collecting all bookbags and backpacks before allowing entrance into the library in order to alleviate the book thefts which claimed at least 550 books last year.

All students are now required to toss their books into a dumpster before entrance into the library. Head Librarian Lois Kaplan plans to install lockers or drawers in order to alleviate the inefficiency of the dumpster.

"Students have been very cooperative," said Kaplan. "They were shocked when we told them about the number of books we've lost."

At an average cost of about $31 to replace a book, the gross in losses approached $17,050.

According to Kaplan the best policy is to leave a backpack in a locker and to only bring the books necessary for study to the library.



OUTSMARTING THE THIEVES. Juniors Ian Mirmelstein and Diego de Acosta drop their backpacks in the dumpster as they enter the library. After a recent inventory showed more than 550 books missing, librarians implemented a "no bookbags allowed" policy.

Photo by Kaytee Schmitt

Regatta a smash

The city of Shaker Heights sponsored The Regatta at the Park on Saturday, Sept. 7 from noon to 8 p.m. at Horseshoe Lake. Political candidates greeted visitors outside the park and city departmental booths lined the street beyond the entrance.

Various forms of entertainment were scheduled for both adults and children. There were magic demonstrations, face painting, clowns; for the adults there was badminton, aerobics, volleyball and Lolley the Trolley. In addition, the high school marching band performed.

The Regatta itself, the main attraction, went from 12:30 to 4:30. Channel 3 news anchor Leon Bibb served as race commentator.

Another main attraction was the Shaker Sharks dunking booth, at which swimming coach Ernest Welsch was dunked.

However, the attraction drawing the greatest number of people was the food court. Many Shaker restaurants sold their goods. Also, the hockey team sold popcorn, and the band boosters sold beverages.

Calculators issued

The math department f has issued over 1300 calculators to students.

Three models of calculators have been purchased from Texas Instruments, including the TI-81, the Scientific Calculator and the Math Explorer Model.

The total cost of the calculators and accessories was about $45,000, according to rincipal Jack Rumbaugh.

"These calculators represent an investment in technology," Math Department Head Raymond Skitzki said.

Freshman mentoring program instituted

What started as a senior project has grown into a mentoring program, through which seniors help freshmen with their homework and adjustment to the high school has grown significantly this year, and is headed by ninth grade assistant principal Randall Yates.

Initiated by '91 graduates Lisa Farmer and Wendy Newberry, the program began as a senior project, spread, and now has more than 150 members. The idea behind it is for seniors to aid freshmen with classwork on a one on one basis. Each senior is assigned to a freshman, whom he will tutor anywhere from once a month to four times a week.

The freshman had an opportunity to meet their tutors at a picnic on Aug. 23.

"(The picnic) was a good way to meet the kids before school," said senior tutor Antjuan Taylor.

Senior Mary DiDio agrees.

"Many of the freshmen had been grouping together, and some of the seniors grouped together; there just needed to be an icebreaker," DiDio said.

Although many students felt that the picnic was worthwhile, attendance was disappointing.

"It was a successful picnic. Many people didn't show up, but everyone talked to each other, and that was good," freshman Solomon Boyd said.

Although the program was intended for tutoring, both freshmen and seniors feel that it should also be used to help the freshmen adjust. For most of the freshmen, the help which seniors provide during their transition to the high school was one of their main reasons for joining the mentoring program.

Most seniors said that they plan to help the freshmen both academically and socially.

"I'm pretty open to any kind of questions my tutee has," Didio said.

'Cleveland 2000' stresses community

BY DAVID LIPTON

Staff Reporter

Cleveland 2000, a new program emphasizing the interrelation between social classes while teaching about Cleveland will begin in October with one of four assemblies.

The program is designed to educate students about Cleveland's past, present, and future. The idea of Cleveland 2000 was to imagine what Cleveland would be like in the year 2000 and how the Cleveland's future could be even better. The program's designers hope students, through assemblies, can see how classes are related to each other.

"You should be able to pull your classes together," social studies teacher Cameron Buckland said.

The idea has been tried in colleges around the country but Shaker is the first large-scale high school program.

The first assembly, scheduled for October 15, was to include Cleveland Mayor Mike White, but he was forced to cancel, so a replacement is being sought. The assembly will emphasize the need for all suburbs and the city of Cleveland to work together to improve the city's future.

"People tend to look at it as one suburb against another," Buckland said.

The second assembly, to highlight the cultural aspects of Cleveland is scheduled to have Bruce Harrah, who is working on the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, speak on how rock and roll had its roots in science, math, and English. This will be the Harrah's first speech on a nationwide tour of high schools, which will show how some modern rock groups have begun to study classical music and literature to improve their own music.

The third assembly will illustrate the ethnic side of Cleveland, which was the fourth most ethnically diverse city in the United States in the latter half of the 1980's.

The program's designers hope to bring in a dance group to illustrate the similarities of ethnic groups. The assembly will display the connection between English, social studies, and foreign language classes.

The final assembly will connect economics, social studies, science, math while teaching the importance of technology in Cleveland. It will stress the importance of the lake and its water.

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Cleveland 2000 features city's renaissance

RITE IDEA

"Where are you from?"
"Shaker."
"Oh, where's that?"
"Well, it's, uh, a suburb of Cleveland."
"Oh, I'm sorry."

Does this sound familiar? Too often those of us living near the city once nicknamed "the mistake on the lake," have had to put up with dialogues like the one above, both in real life, and in the movies. But all that is changing.

Cleveland is a city on the move. More and more, magazines from around the country are featuring Cleveland and the renaissance which the city is experiencing. With projects like the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Gateway soon to be constructed, things seem to be getting even better. Now, the administration and faculty have jumped on the Cleveland promotion bandwagon with a project of their own. According to an administration letter, a series of programs and assemblies dubbed "Project: Cleveland 2000," will examine the past, present, and future of Cleveland, and is designed to "engage, inform and invigorate the students at Shaker Heights High School." Anything that promises to do all of this deserves at least some praise and attention.

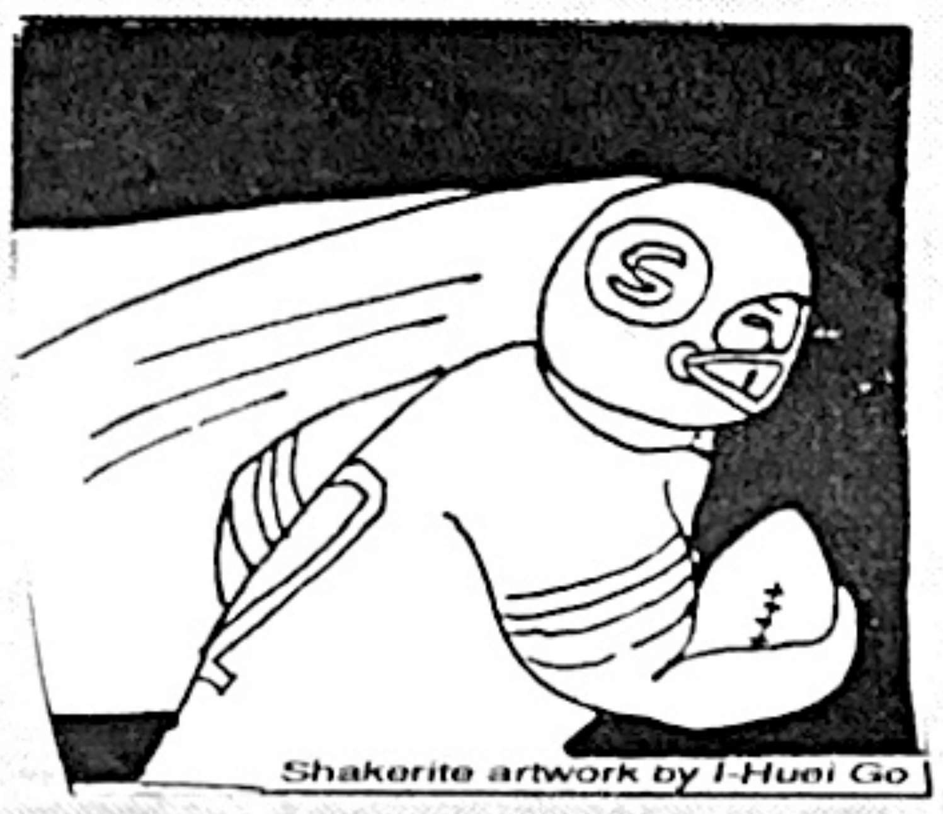
The project claims to be the first large-scale high school program of its kind. This major undertaking is in the hands of the faculty's Cleveland 2000 Committee who have invited several dynamic speakers to address the faculty and students on four broad topics concerning Cleveland and its development through the year 2000. Topics include suburban cooperation, the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, the importance of Cleveland's ethnic communities, and how technology and development will affect Cleveland in the future. This is an idea whose time has come. In order for Cleveland to succeed and prosper, those of us living in the suburbs must make an effort to learn about the city and to discover what can be done to make this area even better in the future.

We have to abandon our political rivalries with Cleveland and neighboring suburbs, so that we can all cooperate in making the city and Northeast Ohio one of the most vibrant and active regions in the nation.

Cleveland 2000 has also set another noble goal. It plans to illustrate to students the interrelationship between academic subjects and how skills learned in the classroom can translate to the real world. This is important because all too often in school, students miss out on how material learned in one class is connected to that learned in another. Perhaps by demonstrating in a creative way the importance of the interrelationship of subjects, students will become more interested in what they are learning at school.

Cleveland 2000 will hopefully provide all of us with exciting and informative assemblies. With creative planning and a line up of renowned speakers it may also accomplish much more. It may truly invigorate the student body and perhaps help us take pride in the city of Cleveland. We no longer will have to put up with the embarrassment of Cleveland jokes.

CHEERS & JEERS



Shakerite artwork by I-Huei Go

CHEERS to the football team's victory over Parma.

JEERS to starting school before Labor Day.

CHEERS to weekends... we only appreciate them during the school year.

JEERS to the attempted coup in the Soviet Union.

CHEERS to the rebuilding Browns.

JEERS to going to school when the temperature is over 90 degrees.

CHEERS to the 26 National Merit Semi- Finalists from Shaker.

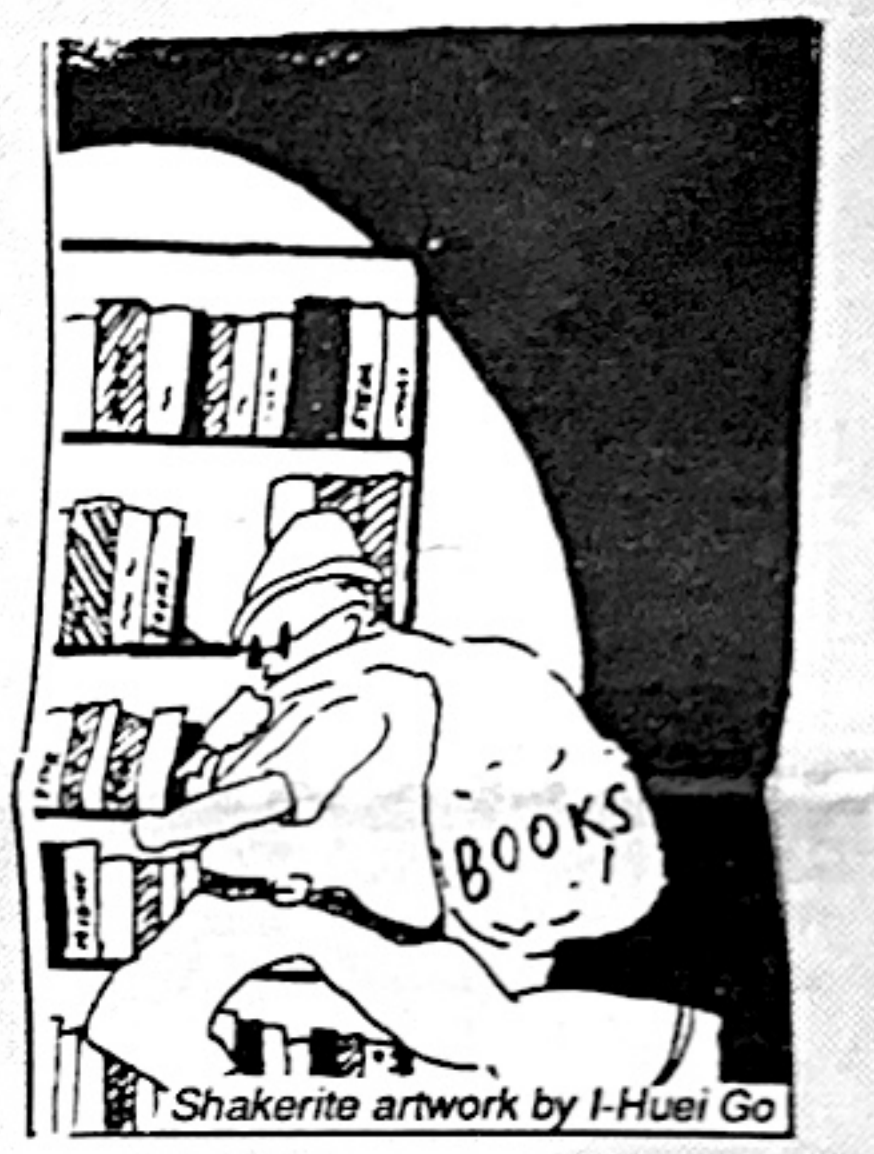
JEERS to the year- round school year in California.

CHEERS to Cleveland 2000.

JEERS to bad parking spaces on the oval.

CHEERS to teachers who pay attention to flex night.

JEERS to the people who stole over 500 books from the library.



Shakerite artwork by I-Huei Go

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LETTERS TO THE EDITORS

Semanteme solution flawed

To the editor:

This is in regards to your Rite Idea editorial ("Semanteme shows improvement, but...") of June 4, 1991. While I agree with some of your complaints, I am distressed by your underlying assumptions.

As one of the Submissions Editors of the Semanteme in 1990-91, I assure you that all submissions are judged solely for their quality and subject matter and that the particular author of a work is not a factor in accepting or rejecting it.

It is only natural that the Semanteme attracts staff members who wish to submit their own works, so I disagree with placing a limit on the printing of staff submissions.

While one of the Semanteme's major problems is the lack of non-staff submissions, your proposal that English teachers assign creative writing pieces is flawed. You assume that students can be forced to write creatively. This is simply not so. Many students simply have no desire to write creatively; others are incapable of expository, let alone creative, writing. Setting aside time for creative writing would be ueless and would place an additional burden on teachers as well as students.

Finally, I must take exception to your call for the Semanteme to "actively recruit minority staff members." All Semanteme meetings are open to the enire student body. It is not the responsibility of the Semanteme—nor of any institution—to seek out and reward unqualified members simply because of their skin color or ethnic background. To do so constitutes true racism and we must learn to judge people solely on the quality of their character.

Joshua Randall, class of 91

Teacher grateful for transition help

To the editor:

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the administration, faculty, staff and students at Shaker for making my transition from the middle school to the high school so smooth. I would like to especially acknowledge the help of Dr. Guice and the foreign language department.

Robert T. White, foreign language teacher

Historical changes impact upon teens

PERSPECTIVE

JEREMY PARIS
Opinion & Columns Editor

We live in a time of great historical changes. Long standing institiitions which once seemed as though they would never fall are now falling around us. The communist Soviet empire which only a few years ago seemed such a formidable enemy is now fragmented and crumbling. Unlike most important events and occurrences in history, these changes have occurred entirely within our lifetime, the lifetime of a teenager.

It can be hard, sometimes, for a high school student to relate to what has happened in history because so much of it deals with issues of the dead past. Even relatively recent history, such as the two world wars and the Great Depression, have little meaning to a teenager growing up in the 1990s.

Recent events, such as the fall of communism in the Soviet Union, have great historical importance and, more relevantly, great meaning to a person of our generation. Even within the short span of a teenager's life has the Soviet Union gone from a mysterious enemy to a weakening ally, depending now on the aid of the United States to carry it through its troubling times.

With the death of the communist party in Russia comes perhaps an even more important occurrence; the death of an ideology. Today, we can witness history as itunfolds before our eyes and democracy grows in the new, very different, Soviet Union.

I was watching an ABC special recently during which normal citizens of the United States were able to ask questions directly of Boris Yeltsin and Mikail Gorbachev. It made me marvel at how the world has changed and how we are now truly able to watch history as it happens. This meeting would have been an impossibility only five years ago.

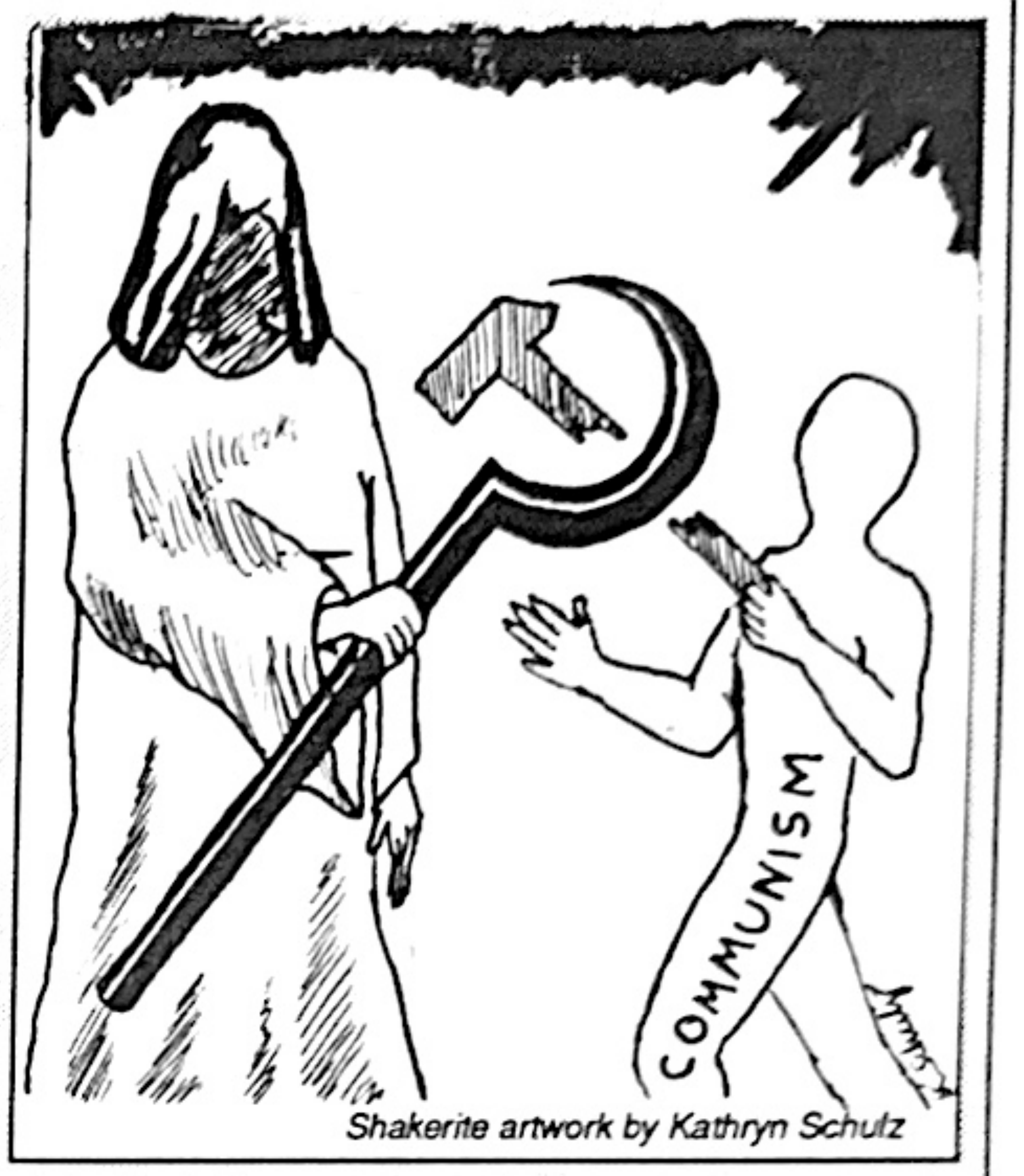
For the high school student of today to understand the importance of what is happening, he must compare current events to the past and gain a sense of historical perspective. We must realize that a global community seemed like an idealists dream, not a possible reality, only a few years ago, and that the idea of having the Soviet Union as our ally seemed equally impossible.

Only two years ago did the Berlin wall crumble and only last year was Germany reunited into one state. The falling of the Berlin Wall marked the high point of the repudiation of communism in the old Soviet bloc countries as well as a changing of the times as what was once impossible becomes possible.

Events which occur within our lifetime take on special meaning to us. When our parents were teenagers they witnessed such events as the Viet Nam War and the assasinations of John F. Kennedy and Martin Luther King. Having lived through these events, they are able to relate more fully to them and to appreciate better the significance that they had.

However, there is a large difference between their era and ours. We are now able to watch historical events as they happen, not after. The entire country was able to sit back and watch the Persian Gulf War as it unfolded. The baby boomer generation did not have the same ability to see these events with the same directness and immediacy.

This new directness brings with it new problems. It leads to almost too much familiarity with historically significant events. It is now harder to sort out what is truly significant and to appreciate it for the importance that it has. We were able to turn on and off the Gulf War as easily as we could a football game.



Shakerite artwork by Kathryn Schulz

Witnessing these events as teenagers, we will see them written in the history books of our children when we are adults. They are the first such events that our generation has been able to witness and understand which have occured entirely within our lifetimes.

The future holds many changes as current high school students become adults. The world will be very different with only one superpower because our enemies are no longer so obvious to us. In order to understand these future events, we must gain perspective on the historical events occurring in the present.

Shortening school year is best plan; can cut it to down to only 18 days

KATHRYN SCHULZ
Art & Graphics Editor

It's June 1 Shaker Heights High School. Temperatures are high, tempers are short and attention spans are even shorter. Nearly everybody is spending most of his time gazing wistfully out of windows that display sunny skies. Everyone's thinking happily of the fast approaching day of release. But students, beware! If Shaker were to choose to follow the trend started this year by California schools, where year-round schooling has commenced, June may someday be just another long, hot month of school.

Now, if I were a California student right about now, I'd be pretty mad. So I decided to take some precautionary measures (in case Ohio jumps on the bandwagon) and draw up an alternative plan to submit to the Ohio Board of Education....

To: Members, Ohio Board of Education
From: B.O.R.E.D. (Bureau On Reorganizing Education Days)
Re: Alternative plan to year round schooling

Dear School Board Members:

On behalf of B.O.R.E.D. I am writing to inform you of the deep concern among the students of Ohio for the future of our educational system. I believe that year round schooling is not in the best interests of Ohio's students and therefore respectfully submit the following alternative idea:

I propose Ohio students attend school only during February. To support my argument I present the following cases:

I. Hiring more interesting educators.

Statistics show that the average student listens only 20 percent of the time. Hence, we could reduce the school year by 80 percent simply by hiring educators interesting enough to engage the student's attention all the time, thereby eliminating needless repetition. This additional criterion for teachers would improve the overall quality of teachers, thus heightening a student's desire to learn. Not only that, but if students were in school for less time, frustration and boredom levels would be considerably reduced, and there would be fewer discipline problems that also result in wasted time.

This single action would reduce a 175-day school year to a 35 day school year.

II. Cut down time betweeen classes.

Students at Shaker are alloted five minutes between classes. If only one minute is allowed between classes, two things are achieved. There would be less time wasted in the halls, which would also reduce littering in the halls and even fights. Furthermore, by forcing students to run flat out from class to class, we would be keeping them highly physically fit. This would allow us to eliminate gym class from the curriculum as well. This would reduce the school year by another 6.5 days, thus bringing the total down to 28 days and 3.5 hours a year.

III. Eliminate useless homeroom.

III. I think everyone would agree that eliminating homeroom would save a lot of wasted time. Result: 28 days, 2.5 hours.

IV. Get rid of idle times at end of days.

IV. Any educator will testify to the fact taht the last 10 minutes of every day are totally wasted, as students are too busy anticipating their imminent release. Furthermore, on Fridays, teachers agree that the entire last hour of the day is wasted in musing about weekend plans. By eliminating these idle times, the school year would further be reduced to 27 days.

V. No wasteful items like announcements or locust and earthquake drills

A great number of small items during the school day waste time and accumulate to significant levels. These include pep assemblies, announcements regarding tardies and lockers, and the use of overhead projectors. In addition, while fire drills will be maintained, tornado, earthquake, hurricane, tsunami, flood, frog and locust drills will be eliminated due to unlikelihood (barring severe continental shift). By eliminating the above mentioned items, the school year could be shortened an additional 10 days.

I sincerely hope that as responsible members of the Board you consider my recommendations seriously. If points I through V were carried out, students could attend school only during the 18 school days of February and would be free to spend the rest of the year educating themselves in whatever manner they see fit. I am sure you would discover that students would respond positively to these changes.

THE TOP TEN

Complaints never heard at Shaker

10. We should have finals more often!

9. It is too cold in the cafeteria.

8. It's too bad I can't be a freshman again. (by a non-freshman)

7. Why can't I be a freshman again next year? (by a freshman)

6. Why couldn't school start even earlier this year?

5. I wish we had school year-round like in California.

4. Lunch is just too long!!

3. I wish more of my teachers would disregard flex night.

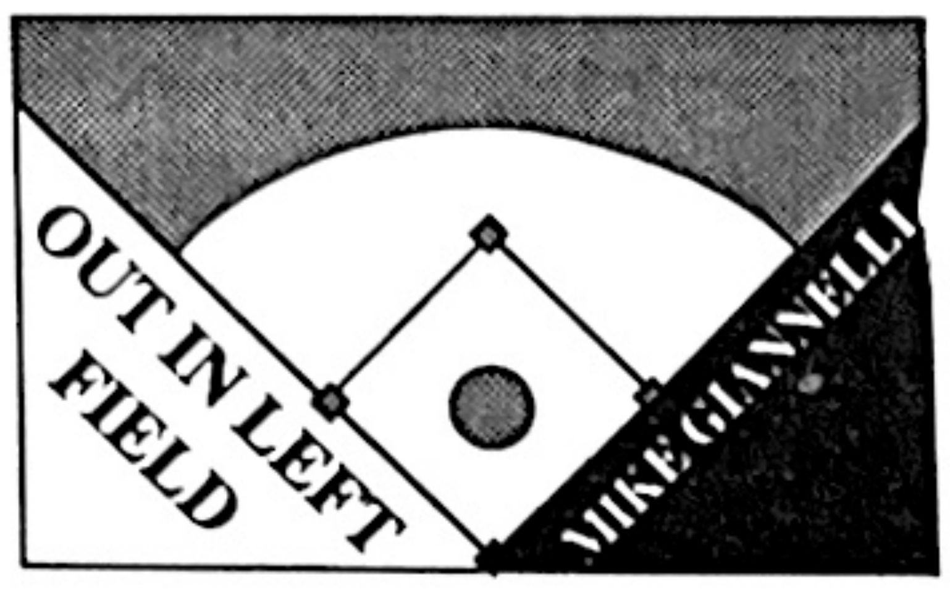
2. I would like it if more teachers gave oral exams.

and the number one complaint...

1. It's too bad they don't have a Top 10 list in every Shakerite.

Among mixed reviews...

Cafeteria worth cost



It was the day before school began. I was giving several soon-to-be freshmen a tour of our school. We soon encountered a room, new to both our beloved freshmen and me, the remodeled cafeteria.

This was nothing different to the freshmen, but I glanced about in bewilderment at the new carpet, tables and chairs. I realized that this would be a better place for everyone (who seems to be in sixth period lunch) to eat, socialize, and shove each other on the way to the drink machines. Granted, our new freshmen will never learn the fine art of balancing an old cafeteria table on its two good legs, and food fights may be on the decline, but our new cafeteria is well worth the expense.

This proud addition to our school will not only grant us the immediate benefit of a better place to eat, but serve to impress visiting students and faculty.

The cafeteria is an improvement that can be used year round, unlike the addition of central air conditioning, which would have been too costly anyhow. According to Dr. Rumbaugh, two classrooms could not have been air conditioned for the cost of the cafeteria.

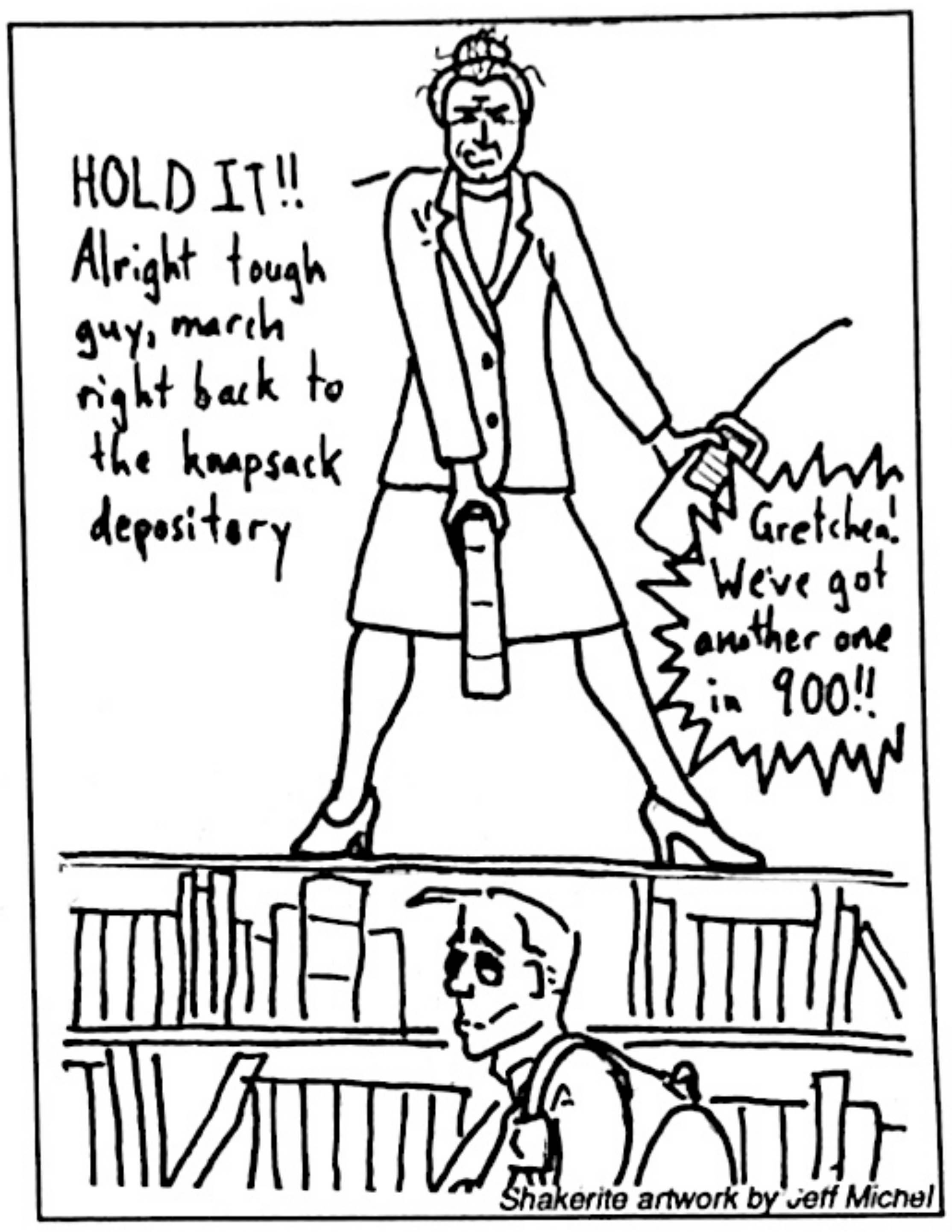
The cafeteria is not the only aspect of our school that will improve this year. After the football season, renovations will begin on the football field and track. An improvement in these facilities, which are in desperate need of repair, will hopefully help bolster school spirit and team morale.

The football field will no longer be the subject of senior pranks (whatever happened to that tree?) and look like the site of a previous Monster truck exhibition. The track team will be able to run at home also.

Eventually, Dr. Rumbaugh would like to install an artificial turf surface in Russell Rupp stadium. Thus, all sports could play their games in the stadium. The turf, unlike grass would not wear out. The soccer team would not have to play at Lomond. Field hockey would not have to play on the front lawn.

In addition, the swimming pool will be no more. Converting the large bathtub into a swim-with-sharks exhibit for teachers failing to observe flex night would have been a nice idea. Instead, the pool will be converted into a multi-purpose room, used for physical education and theatre.

In regards to the textbook budget, a tremendous amount of money was wasted on calculators. At $77 dollars apiece the TI-81 calculators were an unnecessary purchase. Having been told to purchase a calculator last year, and doing so for $40, I was less than delighted upon finding out that this calculator would no longer be of use to me.


HOLD IT!! Alright tough guy, march right back to the knapsack depository
Gretchen! We've got another one in 900!!

Shakerite artwork by Jeff Michel

The textbook funds used to buy these calculators should have been spent on exactly that, textbooks. This would have been a nice alternative to paying over $40 myself for text and workbooks.

My personal favorite change was the no book bags in the library rule. Over 550 books were stolen last year (remind me to turn in my collection). Over 550 books! And English teachers say kids do not read enough.

C'mon guys. The only great work of literature worth taking is the *Sports Illustrated* "Swimsuit Issue," and I am still "borrowing" it.

500 books! That has to be some kind of record. We should have a holiday. Do something really outrageous... like breaking one of the library's few and easy to follow rules. Be a rebel. Really earn that one week suspension from the library. You could accomplish this by doing something really obscene, like talking, listening to music or doing homework with a friend. However, if you are really a Hell's Angel, leave out one of the TOM microfilms. Or better yet, put it back in the wrong order. With creativity, anyone can wreak havoc in the library.

Despite the math department's calculator blunder and the library's ingenious innovation, recent changes should greatly benefit the student body and bolster school spirit.

Beating swim fear builds confidence

THE WHINER
CLAY WEINER

I had conquered the fear of the bathtub years ago, and now, even as a mature eight year old, another immense body of water lay before me waiting to be tackled... Woodbury's swimming pool. The water swarmed with high school aged instructors pretending they were enjoying the water of sub-zero temperatures. Odd, how that first morning was the first and last time they went in.

I resented being classified as a "jellyfish," as well as being the only child who could stand in the shallow end without getting water in his ears. I yearned to attain the "octopus" certificate, my guarantee of springing from the diving board. Yet, to my dismay, it also demanded that the receiver ditch his kick board, my one and only chance at buoyancy.

The thought of swimming lessons had never crossed my mind. This torture was a parental scheme aimed at ending my growing addiction to Saturday morning cartoons.

Swimming became more than a diversion to cartoons; it was a nightmare. I was the only second-grade kid who feared the end of school on Friday.

The award ceremony, the crucial step from jellyfish to octopus came after eight weeks of braving unchartered water during "free" time, bleaching my eyes with chlorine and getting smacked on the backside with other kids' rat-tails. (A deadly weapon disguised as a towel.)

Finally I got to walk around the pool to grab my octopus award. I noticed the younger "guppies" sitting against a wall, with their saddened reflections lingering in the shallow end. I smiled, as if to say, "chipper up little water-life. All of your effort today brings happiness tomorrow." Off I was, aspiring to never again expose myself to the tortures of a crowded swimming pool. My bathtub had grown small enough.

I regained hopes of old Saturday morning pasttimes like watching the "Smurfs" cartoon show.

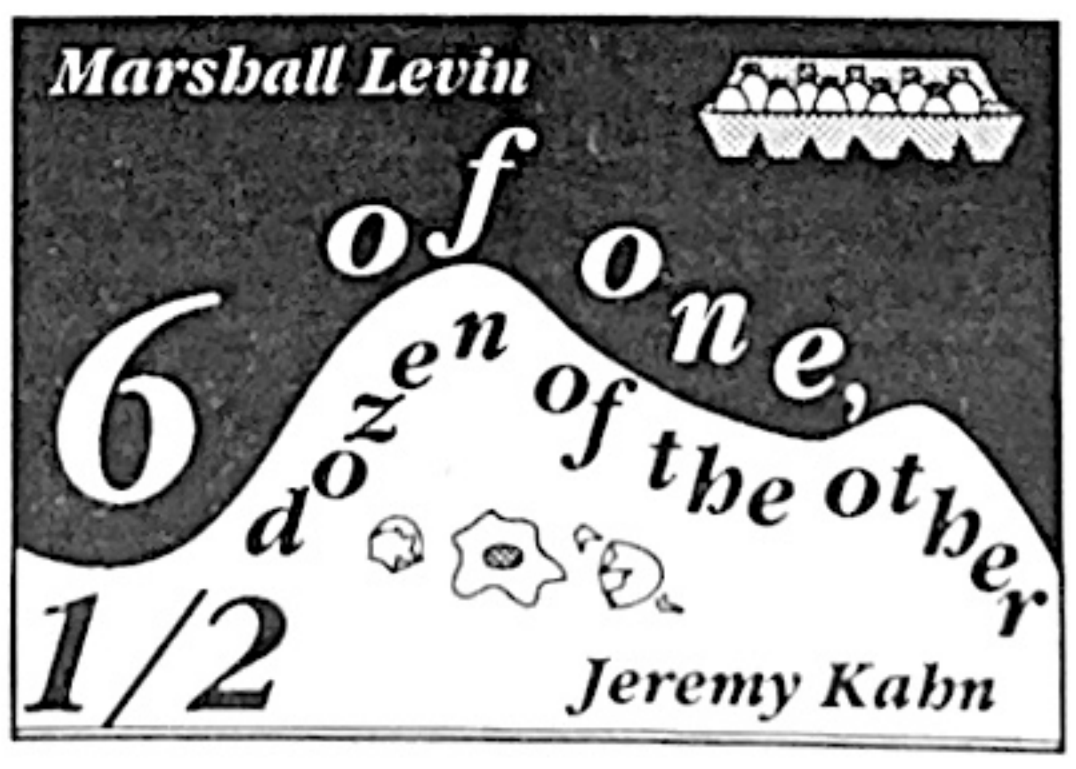
Yet my brief euphoria was shattered to pieces when my mother spewed forth those immortal words: "Oh, you'll be so happy that I signed you up for next session also; just imagine my son, the next 'barracuda'."

In time I would acquire "barracuda," then "pirahna" and eventually the honored "shark," somehow getting acquainted enough with the water to surpass each jawed fish. Yet, I never again experienced the same pleasure as the first time when I became an honored "octopus."

Ditch the bin; better approaches needed to control theft of books from library

Well, you missed your chance. Last year's library forgiveness week is over. The period of amnesty for those of you who forgot to sign your name on the little card has come and gone. If you liked reading so much (or you didn't like your report card so much) that you just decided to keep a book or two in your locker - for the entire year, the era of good feelings (stealings) is over. And now look at what's happened. It never should have come to this. A partial inventory of the library's holdings revealed that over 550 books were still missing, including two brand new, complete sets of reference books at $500 a pop. With the average book costing $30, the total loss approaches $16, 500.

And that's not all. Thanks to you, the guy who stole, book by book, the entire set of Encyclopedia Britannica, the library has been forced to institute a new rule. They have gone from library forgiveness week to a temporary state of martial law. No longer may you bring a book bag into the room, rather you must deposit it in a holding bin. This is not a solution. It simply trades one kind of problem for another. Now, students must worry about the security of their own books and belongings when they leave them unattended in the bin. They also have to hope that any fragile items in their bags are not crushed under the weight of everyone else's backpacks.



Surely a better system exists. Even checking bags by hand as student leave the door would be an improvement, although it may be time consuming if a line forms at the end of the period. Yet a better solution in the long run may be to follow the example of a number of college libraries and utilize a magnetic inventory control system similar to those in department stores— if one removes a book without checking it out, a tag activates a sensor at the door alerting the proper authorities. Although adding such measures would be expensive, it is surely less demeaning to students than taking their bookbags with the assumption that they will steal books given the slightest opportunity. It is also much longer-lasting and efficient than piling bags in a large bin.

To battle theft further, an accurate account of all listings should be kept. Computerizing the entire library would be one way to do this and it carries with it many added advantages. Although the initial cost may be high, the long term benefits seem to outweigh the immediate expenditures. A big ticket item like the cafeteria may need refurbishing in a few years (weeks), computerizing the library system would be a lasting commitment to tomorrow's students. As well as cutting down on book theft, such a change would make library time more efficient for students to use.

Many area colleges as well as school and public libraries have computerized their listings on terminals located throughout the library, allowing people to spend less time searching for a book and more time reading it. The Cleveland Heights/University Heights school system has gone so far as to incorporate their listings with the Clevenet public library system (which includes the Shaker Heights public library). This would allow students to reserve books at any Clevenet library right from a computer terminal in our school library. With the convenience of light-pens and library cards, fewer students are likely to bypass the circulation desk.

If money were no object, and judging from some of this year's school expenditures it may not be, then this system seems the best way to go for both today's library users and tomorrow's students. Or how about putting a sign up (Hey Raiders - Don't Steal Library Books!) and reminding students daily on the announcements that it isn't right to steal books? Just a thought.

Who is Sheriff Fat Man?
Carter tells in new album

BY DAN RATNER

Entertainment & Spotlight Editor

There's a new CD out in stores, but I don't think you've heard of it. Keep an open mind, because any group with a name like Carter the Unstoppable Sex Machine can't be all that bad.

I really did not expect their new album, *101 Damnations*, to be good. But when I heard their songs, it was actually pretty good. They aren't just your average group. Have you ever heard of a guy named Sheriff Fat Man? Well now I'm positive you haven't heard the album. Let me tell you about the sheriff. As Carter said, "Sheriff Fat Man started out in business as a granny farmer." Weird. That really isn't your average line, is it? But even if it's strange, I guess I shouldn't reject the idea right away. Maybe it would be fun to plant your granny and see how she turns out in the Fall. But then Granny will never be able to pinch your cheeks again, so just listen to the song and don't act on it.

As you can see, this group is truly unique (unless another group is like them and I just don't know about it). For example, while opening a concert for EMF, they decided to use some tape recorders as their drummers. The tape recorders weren't as charismatic as a drummer might have been, but they get the job done. I'm not sure if they were just being stubborn, or if they couldn't afford a drummer. After all, they aren't rich yet because I haven't convinced you to go out and buy the CD. Or maybe I have, and in that case you aren't reading this anymore.

Anyway, I'm getting off track. The whole album is quite a bit like "The Sheriff Fat Man"...very strange (but the album isn't as fat as the sheriff). Let me give you one more sample line. "If the concrete and the clay beneath your feet don't get you son, the avenues and alleyways are gonna do it just for fun. When they've sucked you in and spat you out, and left your family lonely, the telephones on sticks will tell you 999 calls only." How original.

Carter, the Unstoppable Sex Machine is a lot like Milli Vanilli. The only difference is that they don't have back-up singers, their songs are good and the songs which they appear to be singing really are sung by them. Well, maybe they don't resemble Milli Vanilli so much.

Their music is, in general, quite loud. It becomes even louder when you turn the volume on your stereo up, but you probably already figured that out. If you are able to understand the words, it is a unique experience. Not only are the words original, but so are the song titles. Take for instance, "Good Grief Charlie Brown," or "It's a Perfect Day to Drop the Bomb." These titles just make me want to go out and buy it.

Another wonderful aspect of this new and unknown group is their underlying theme. Which is .. I'm not quite sure. One song is about Charlie Brown's dad disowning him in a letter, while another is about tiny children sniffing glue just to the North of Katmandu. It makes you wonder if the two members of Carter have been sniffing glue.

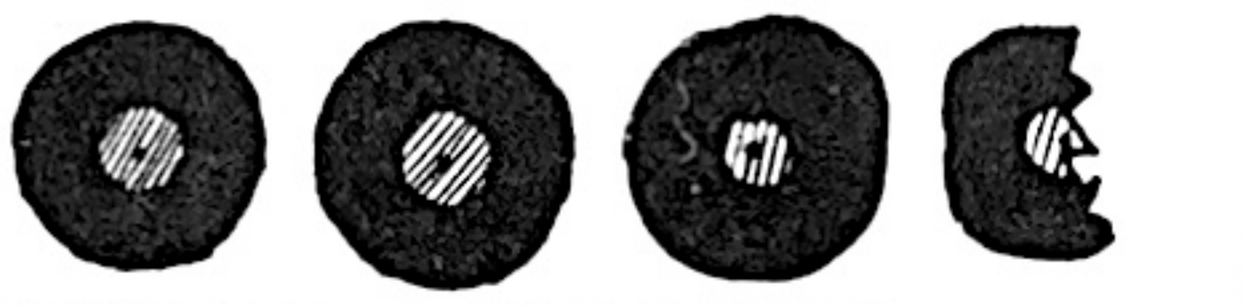
Listening to this CD was a unique experience. It was like eating a watermelon, while staring at a brown wall with nothing on it and smelling like a banana. Forget that analogy, it just doesn't make sense. But neither does Carter. That is what makes them so different to listen to. This band will make you laugh, and possibly cry. It all depends on whether or not you usually get tears in your eyes when you can't stop laughing.

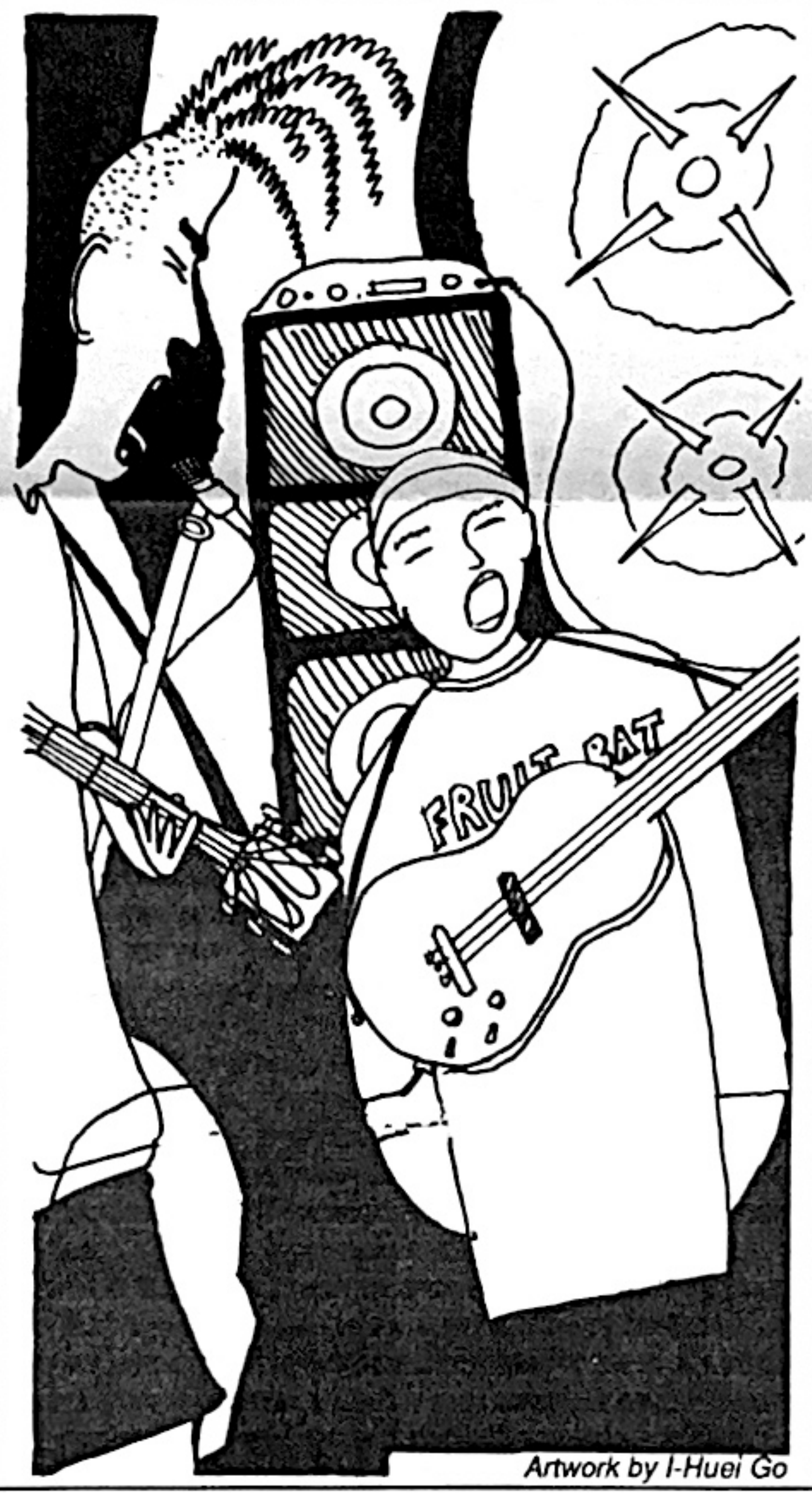
There is another side to Carter USM, however. Although the group is always humorous, it is also very artistic. A major part of their style is the use of puns. The title in itself is a pun. *101 Damnations* refers to *101 Dalmations*, the Disney movie. Although the puns are totally random, they do add an artistic dimension to the group. A few other examples of puns are 'Carnivore Queen,' instead of carnival queen. Whoops, that was only one example. Here's another: 'He was infamous for15 minutes.' This is an allusion to Andy Warhol's quote saying that everyone is famous for 15 minutes.

So, have you bought it yet? I guess not, since you're still reading. If I haven't convinced you by now, maybe it will help that one of the two singers goes under the assumed name of 'Fruit Bat.' Somehow I get the idea that his parents didn't really name him that.

Well, if that doesn't persuade you to buy it, then there is only one thing left to tell you. The cover has 94 black polka dots on a white background. I know it's exciting, but don't hyperventilate, just go out and buy it.

Rating (out of five):





Artwork by I-Huei Go

Dead Again stops hearts with non-stop action

BY KATHRYN SCHULZ

Art and Graphics Editor

I had to go see Kenneth Branagh's new movie, *Dead Again*, twice to be able to write a review of it.

The reason for this is that, being the sort of person who generally doesn't go see any movie with the word "dead" in its title, I spent much of the first time with my eyes squeezed closed.

You might assume from the fact that I was willing to shell out 13 bucks for my two viewings that I enjoyed the movie, and you would be correct. Dead Again is the terrifying and thrilling tale of an amnesiac woman nicknamed Grace (played by Emma Thompson, Branagh's wife) who believes she is the reincarnation of murdered concert pianist Margaret Strauss, and Mike Church (Branagh), the private detective who has been hired to find out who she is in this life. A hypnotist, Franklin Madison (Derek Jacobi), appears on the scene to help her reveal the trauma which led to her amnesia, and Grace begins to believe that Church was (in a past life) Roman Strauss, her husband and supposedly her murderer. It is the first of many ingenious twists.

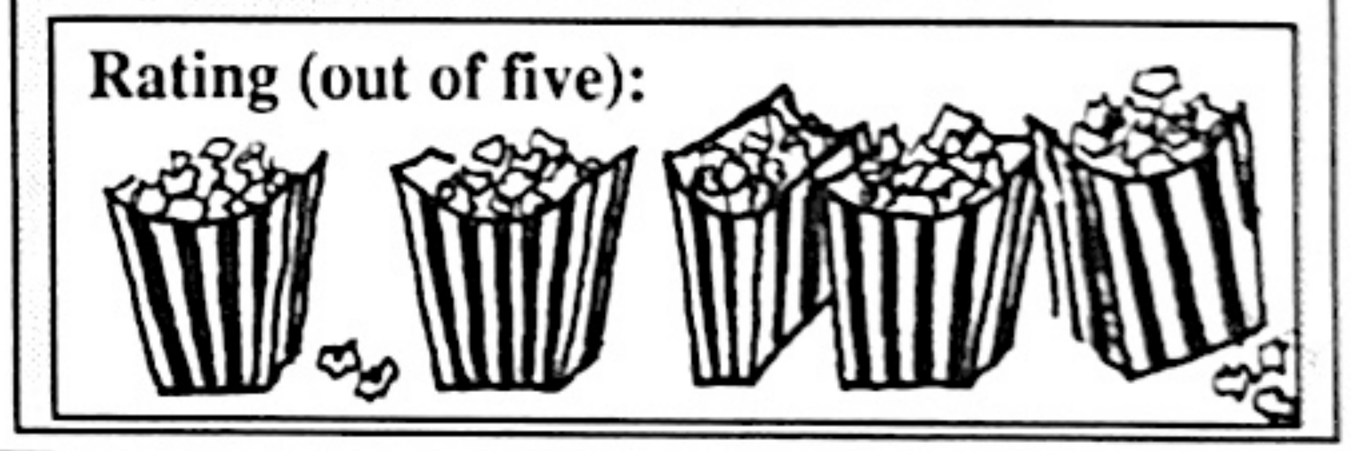
One of the things that makes this movie so wonderful is Branagh's fine sense of pace. The movie alternates between slow suspense scenes worthy of Hitchcock and more modern day, fast paced sequences. The movie does a wonderful job of sweeping you along in front of it to face all of the terror instead of carrying you confusedly in its wake.

The other element that gives this movie its zest is Branagh's clear adoration of the mystery genre. Dead Again steals shamelessly from nearly every mystery movie ever made, but it's put together so well that you like this version better. Branagh has his frightening sequences take place during thunderstorms and doesn't hesitate to let the lightning flash on the waiting murder weapon. He sets the movie in an ominous, gothic-looking building with towering gates, and he shoots scenes of elevator machinery making its slow way up to the victims apartment. Branagh is gleefully amused at his own ability to make the oldest tricks work on you, and they do. A brilliant and beautiful score by Patrick Doyle helps keep you on the edge of your seat.

The overall mood of Dead Again is highly romantic. As Grace tells the hypnotist about her life as Strauss, we see (in black and white) the sweeping, almost haunting elegance of the life Roman and Margaret led in the 1940's. The mystery, too, is a romantic one, complete with a smitten newspaper reporter (Andy Garcia) and the handsome Roman professing undying love on his way to the electric chair. Yet Branagh also injects his story with a healthy dose of humor, which is helped along in part by a bizarre bit part played by Robin Williams.

Despite the rather far-fetched basis of Branagh's movie, it is so frightening and yet so much fun that I was more than willing to suspend disbelief to sit back and enjoy it. Judging from the reaction of the rest of the audience, I was not alone.

Rating (out of five):



Fortune is good for new 'Hunan'

BY JEFF EPSTEIN

Staff Reporter

Ni hao! I bet you don't know what that means. Well, it means literally, 'you good.' This is a Chinese phrase of greeting.

The new Hunan on Shaker Square, provides the feel of an authentic Chinese restaurant without the hostess mumbling strange words at you. That can be a great comfort, since the hostess could conceivably say, 'May a large, red woodpecker poke your eye out in your sleep.' Now you don't have to worry.

The new restaurant is not affiliated with the recently burned down Hunan Gourmet at Coventry. Open for about a month, Hunan features cooks from Chinatown in Houston, Texas, who specialize in different kinds of Chinese dishes such as entrees with bean curd and a variety of noodles.

The help is well-trained, courteous and kind, and provides excellent service. They didn't even spill soup on me, as can often happen when clumsy waiters trip over the small piece of chicken that someone just drooled out ofhis mouth.

The dinner menu consists of a variety of dishes from your customary meat and seafood dish to a good selection of vegetarian meals served sizzling at your seat. Dinner entrees average between $8-$12, and the food quality and sizable portions make the prices very reasonable.

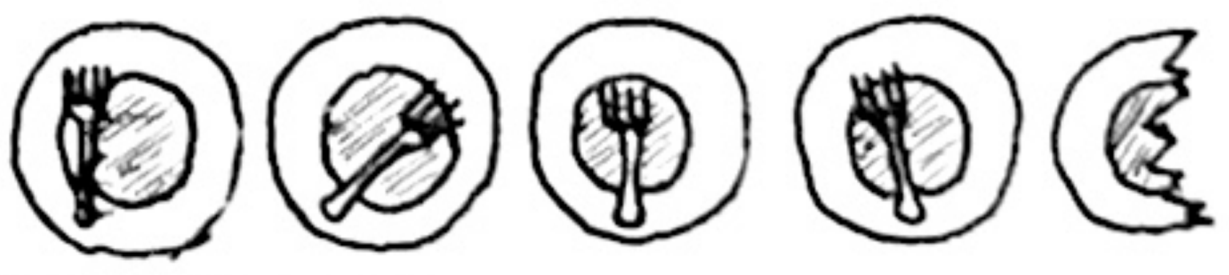
The food at Hunan on the Square is tasty and unusual Chinese food, but at least you know what's in it. The most popular entree in the restaurant's first month has been a pan-fried soft egg noodle with choice of chicken, beef, shrimp or vegetables inside. You may ask what a pan-fried soft egg noodle is, and I can't answer that. But from what I've heard, it tastes good.

My dinner at the Hunan was extremely enjoyable. Both my soup and my meal was appetizing, and the atmosphere was pleasant. However, the one bad point of the restaurant was the timing of the kitchen. My family's entrees came out in three stages, with five minutes between each dish.

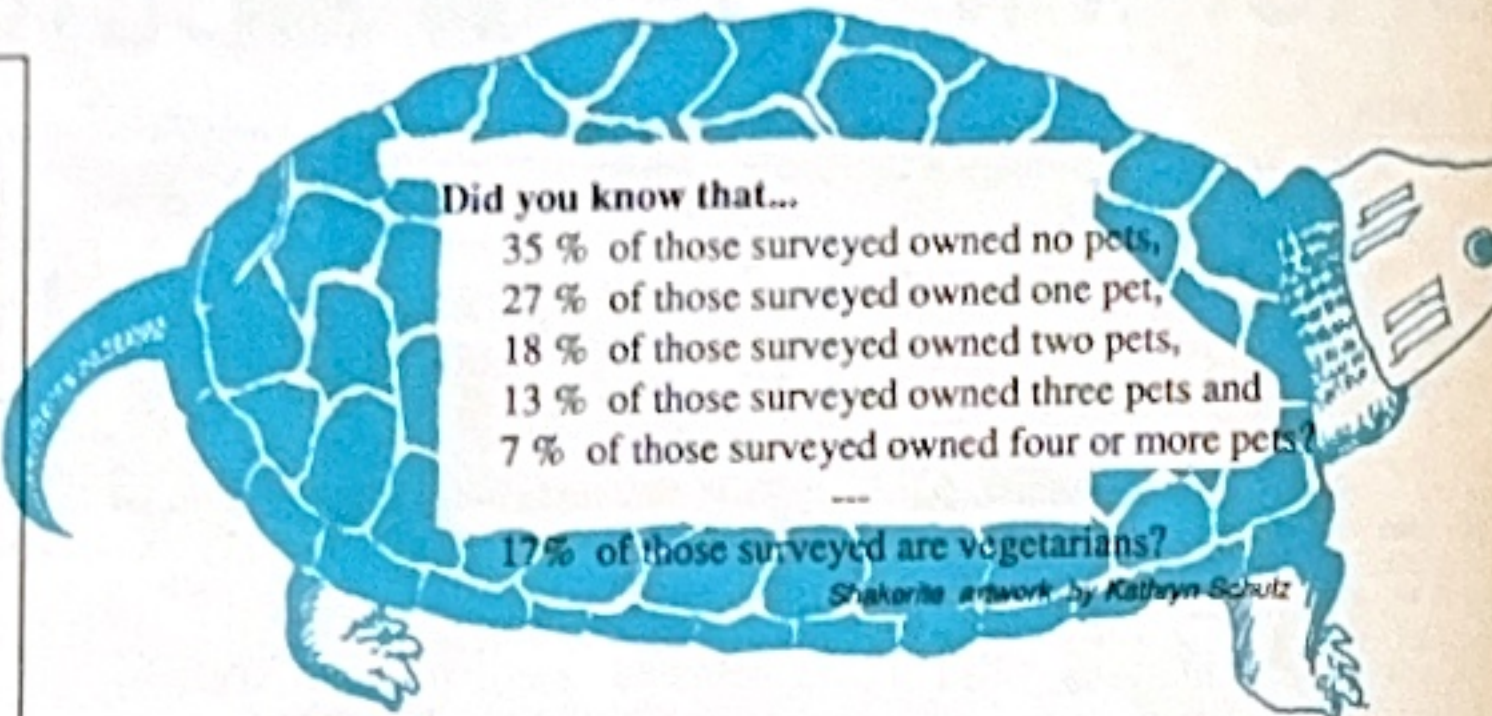
My meal was the last to come out. It is not enjoyable to watch your entire family eat, while you have no food. I suppose you could chew on your napkin, but it doesn't taste as good as the food. The hostess told me that the kitchen was still having a little trouble timing the meals, but the problem would be solved soon.

Hunan on the Square is already a popular restaurant in its first month, judging from the fact that it was almost filled on a Wednesday night. It's a great restaurant . The napkins taste better there than anywhere.

Rating (out of five):



ANIMAL 'FURVOR'



Did you know that...

35 % of those surveyed owned no pets,
27 % of those surveyed owned one pet,
18 % of those surveyed owned two pets,
13 % of those surveyed owned three pets and
7 % of those surveyed owned four or more pets?

17% of those surveyed are vegetarians?

Shakerite artwork by Kathryn Schultz

Veggie trend popular with students

BY JENNIFER FRIEDMAN
Staff Reporter

As a rising tide of social and political awareness sweeps the country, many people, especially teenagers, are becoming vegetarians. Some have altered their eating habits for health reasons or religious beliefs, but most are morally opposed to eating meat.

Though many people find it hard to eliminate meat from their diet, others find it a permanent lifestyle.

"My parents think I'm ridiculous, but it [vegetarianism] is important enough to me that I'll continue despite their opposition."

Those who choose to become vegetarians are opposed to the destruction of forests to raise cattle. John Robbins, in his book, *Diet for a New America*, states that 260 million acres of U.S. forests have been cleared to create cropland to produce a meat centered diet.

According to The Network for Ohio Animal Action, over 90 percent of all agricultural land, over half of the total land area of the U.S., is devoted to livestock agriculture. Not only can the meat industry be detrimental to the land and soil, but the soybeans used to feed these animals could be used to feed the hungry.

"I disagree with the whole meat production process, it is so industrialized. It is not something I want to be a part of," said senior Jennifer Margulies.

People become vegetarians not only for political and moral reasons; religious beliefs often play a large role.

Senior Priya Krishnan is Hindu and belongs to the Brahaman cast in India, which prohibits eating meat. Hindus' religious beliefs include that cows are sacred. For Krishnan, vegetarianism is simply a force of habit; a tradition that has been in the family for many years.

"I lived in India for 10 years and no one ever questioned my vegetarianism," said Krishnan

A pamphlet from the Network for Ohio Animal Action finds that a common myth about vegetarianism is that it is not a healthy eating habit and without eating meat, it is impossible to get enough protein. However, by avoiding meat, vegetarians are able to get protein from other sources without the amount of fat contained in meat.

Many parents, whose children are vegetarians, are concerned about the nutrition in their child's eating habits and try to balance their meals.

"It [her vegetarianism] doesn't bother me. My only concern is that she doesn't eat a well-balanced diet. I try to find other sources of protein she will like," said Rosemary Margulies, mother of Jennifer.

To accommodate the growing numbers of vegetarians, there are numerous stores and restaurants serving non-meat eaters in Cleveland. Health food stores and food co-ops sell cruelty free products and free-range chickens, as well as tempeh and tofu. Both are soybean products that are high in protein but low in fat.

According to Robbins, vegetarians also avoid eating the numerous chemicals found in meat products. The living conditions in cattle feedlots are so horrendous that they are constantly dosed with antibiotics which prevent disease in animals, but pose serious health risks for humans.

Vegetarianism is a personal choice that must be made after weighing the moral, political and health considerations. For some it is merely a way of eating, but others feel very strongly about their decision not to eat meat.

Researchers, activists argue animal rights issue

BY DEBRA MAYERS AND JILL PELAVIN
Co-Centerpiece Editors

The controversy over animal rights is most debated between animal rights activists and those who believe animal testing is beneficial.

This issue dates as far back as the lifetime of philosopher Jeremy Bentham, known for the famous quote, "The question is not, can they reason? Nor can they talk? But, can they suffer?"

The Network for Ohio Animal Action, the largest animal activist group in Cleveland, is involved with several aspects of animal rights.

"Our organization is a chapter of People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA), we are involved in almost every aspect of abuse and exploitation of animals. This includes laboratory animals, product testing, dissection, factory farm issues, fur issues and ranch raised animals used for their skin and entertainment such as the circus and rodeos," said secretary Karen Bartholomew.

Other groups, besides PETA, include the Animal Protective League, whose primary function is to be a last resort for owners who have pets they may no longer need or want.

"We do work such as cruelty investigations and elementary education. We go into a classroom and teach children how to hold a puppy and how to care for it," said Tom McCauley, a worker at the Animal Protective League.

Many doctors find animal testing pertinent to medical research, though there is a lesser representation of animal activists.

"In terms of an advancement in medicine, there isn't any way we could do so without animals," said Dr. Matthew Levy, a research doctor at Mt. Sinai Medical Center.

Senior Cathy Simon, a member of PETA and the Humane Farming Association, strongly opposes animal testing.

"The government does not require companies to test on animals, yet they still do. This testing goes unregulated. All that's needed is a simple warning label on products."

According to social studies teacher Jerry Graham, the United States is one of the few industrialized nations that does not have regulations concerning animal testing.

"The U.S. has not passed nearly as much legislation because agriculture, business, and cosmetic industries argue that it will cost them more money if regulations are passed," said Graham.

Some companies refuse to test products on animals. One such company is The Body Shop, a world wide chain that manufactures and sells beauty supplies.

"We (The Body Shop) believe that animals should not suffer for our vanity. It is neither right, necessary, nor scientifically accurate to test skin and hair care products on animals," claims their informational pamphlet.

> **"*In terms of an advancement in medicine, there isn't any way we could do so without animals.*"**
>
> ***- Dr. Matthew Levy***

Many activists argue that animal testing is unnecessary, as there are other methods such as computers, microbiological and analytical testing. Many researchers disagree because they feel that these methods do not yield the same reactions.

"A computer has no intelligence, it only knows what you put in. It doesn't respond to any stimulus, disease or infections as a human would, so results may be tainted," said Levy.

Many people take a neutral stance. They feel that certain aspects of medical research are necessary.

"I am not against all forms of medical research. I will not let a person put animals ahead of humans, but I am against needless duplication of experiments," said Graham.

"Some cruel experiments probably did take place, but scientists feel just as bad toward unnecessary testing," said Levy.

Zoo provides entertainment, education

BY NANOR TABRIZI
Staff Reporter

Although I used to visit the zoo frequently as a child, I had not been there for seven years. Driving up to the zoo on labor day weekend, I did not expect much more than a tedious afternoon viewing dull animals. However, I was soon caught up in the excitement that flowed from the crowd of small families and young explorers.

Naturally, most people visit the zoo to see animals. But perhaps, what is more interesting than even this is watching the people themselves.

Mothers pushing strollers and fathers comforting frightened children are almost as numerous as the animals. Among the crowd, teenagers make up the second largest portion of the populous.

Entering the zoo I was immediately struck by the number of photographers. Taking a look around, one would think that the zoo was hosting a photographers' convention. It seemed like everyone thought that pictures from the zoo would be excellent in a photo album.

Despite the great commotion and distraction caused by the crowd, the animals didn't seem to mind and continued about their own business. Privacy is a foreign concept to these animals who continue napping and even bathing in public.

One would think that the more ferocious members, like the lions and tigers, would attract the largest crowd. Curiously enough, the monkey island accumulated the biggest conglomeration of people.

But if the monkeys, crowds, photo opportunities and animals don't interest you, there is always the gift shop, which features everything from clothing with animal insignia to animal potholders.

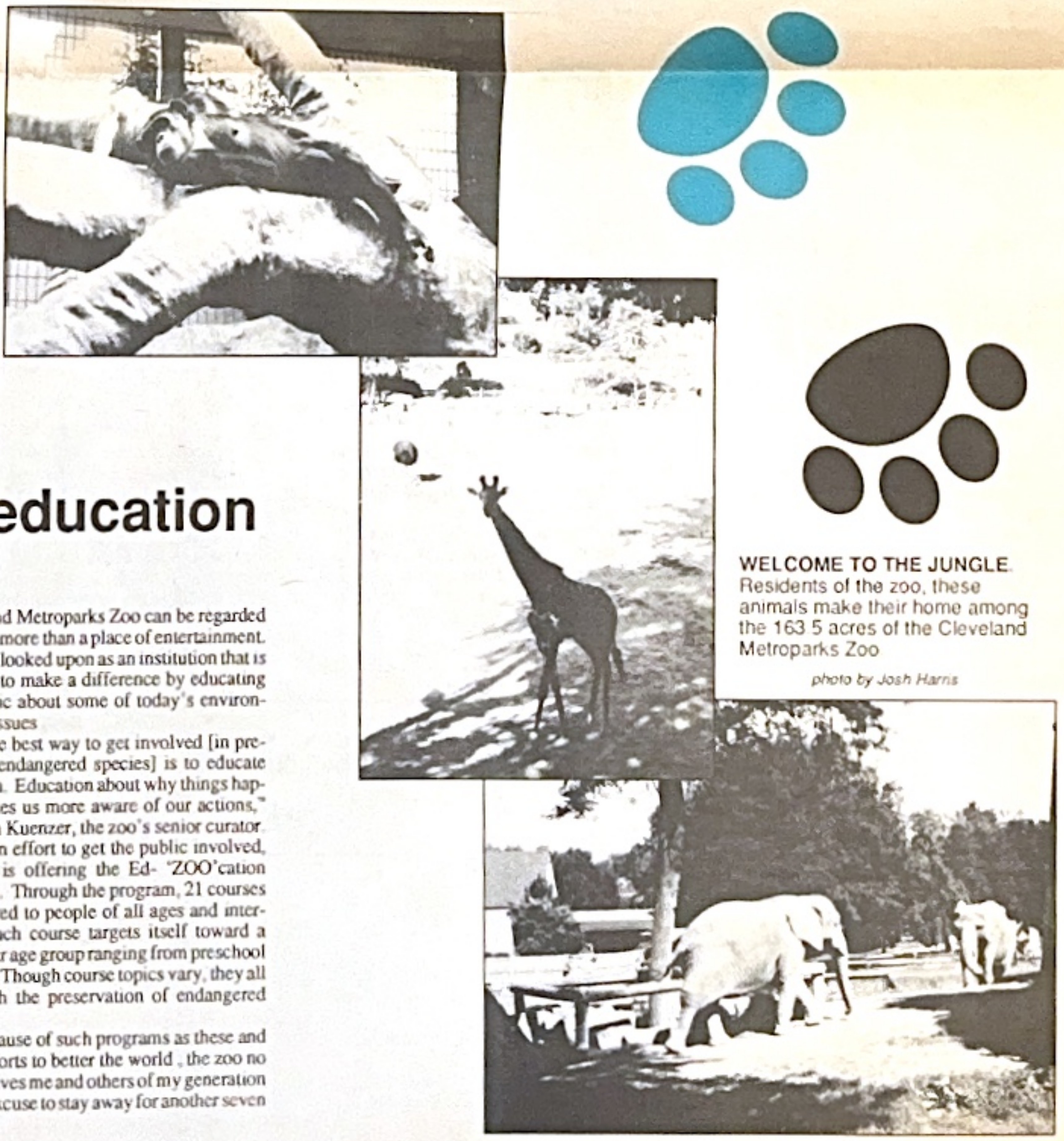
And if all this still doesn't satisfy you, you can next turn to the food stands, offering everything from cotton candy to fuller meals, such as pizza and hot dogs.

Yet today, because of its involvement in the protection of endangered species, the Cleveland Metroparks Zoo can be regarded as much more than a place of entertainment. It can be looked upon as an institution that is fighting to make a difference by educating the public about some of today's environmental issues.

"The best way to get involved [in preserving endangered species] is to educate and learn. Education about why things happen makes us more aware of our actions," said Don Kuenzer, the zoo's senior curator.

In an effort to get the public involved, the zoo is offering the Ed- 'ZOO'cation program. Through the program, 21 courses are offered to people of all ages and interests. Each course targets itself toward a particular age group ranging from preschool to adult. Though course topics vary, they all deal with the preservation of endangered species.

Because of such programs as these and other efforts to better the world, the zoo no longer gives me and others of my generation a valid excuse to stay away for another seven years.



WELCOME TO THE JUNGLE. Residents of the zoo, these animals make their home among the 163 5 acres of the Cleveland Metroparks Zoo

photo by Josh Harris

Graphics by Debra Mayers

They deliver: Band marches in Pizza Hut event

BY ANDY ELLNER
Staff Reporter

They march, they dance, they play music, and now they deliver pizzas. The juniors and seniors of the Shaker Red Raiders Marching Band have developed yet another talent, and this one didn't require hours of practice.

Actually, they didn't deliver the pizzas Kevin Mack did, but who really keeps track of these things?

The event was a Pizza Hut promotional contest held Sept. 3: along with his mushrooms and anchovies, one lucky winner got a visit from a large man wearing number 34, a few tunes from the "Pride of Shaker Heights," and a show by the Cleveland State cheerleader squad. All in 30 minutes or less. (Whoops, wrong pizza place.)

"We had a good time, and had a chance to show off a bit," said first year band director Eric Sundet, who was very pleased with the performance. Sundet also said that Pizza Hut was ecstatic. WMMS presented the band with T-shirts and sunglasses.

The band marched with the Cleveland State cheerleaders in approaching the house, and then performed the songs Soul Man, and Basin Street Blues, as well as the Shaker Heights fight song.

Students reactions to the performance were mixed.

"It was a worthwhile promotion for the band, and it was fun," said senior Josh Moskowitz.

Others, however, expressed disappointment that the march was only a block. They said they felt somewhat conspicuous, parading just to deliver a pizza.

The event was covered by both Channel 3 and Channel 43 news, as well as cameras from Pizza Hut. Sundet says there is some possibility that footage from the parade will be used in a national promotion for either Pizza Hut or the National Football League.

The Red Raider Marching Band can be seen weekly this fall in their performances at both home and away football games.

This year the halftime show will include a percussion feature entitled Sabre Dance. The group will also light up the field playing and marching to the songs Soul Man, Basin Street Blues, Puttin' on the Ritz, and possibly Sir Duke. Dancing along with the band are the Raiderettes.

RAISE YOUR HAND IF YOU'RE SURE. *The flute section of the marching band prepares for the August* pep rally. The band was involved in a promotional event for Pizza Hut, in which they marched and sang while delivering pizza.

Shakerite photo by Jason Hamilton

Russell shares foreign adventures...

Art teacher visits new cultures

BY MARK SMITH
Staff Reporter

Art teacher Jenny Russell doesn't visit foreign lands simply to travel; she goes to experience a new culture.

"I've always liked to travel," Russell said, "and I have made valuable friends in my experiences."

She certainly has become acquainted with many different people while teaching at a school in Monterey, Mexico, visiting art classes in Japan, staying in Spain for six months, and traveling by train through Europe.

In fact, her best friend lives in Jamaica and she visits her on a regular basis.

Russell says that she became interested in traveling while in college. She was the chairperson of a foreign exchange program.

She said that after graduating with a master's degree at Case Western Reserve University she immediately began looking for a teaching job with a diverse student body.

"I was offered several jobs, but all the schools had basically homogeneous student bodies," Russell said. "I was looking for something that was a lot more culturally diverse."

Instantly, she set her eyes on Shaker Heights High School, only to find that she had been turned down. She then decided to teach in Mexico.

"There were no positions in Shaker Heights so I chose Monterey, Mexico, sight unseen," Russell said.

While in Mexico, she taught at the American School in Monterey. She was there for one full year, from 1987 to 1988. Since then she has gone back every year for the summer.

Russell said that even in the American School, there were students incapable of speaking English, but her background in Spanish helped her overcome the language barrier. In fact, she studied Spanish while in Mexico.

Russell taught various types of art while in Mexico.

"I always depend on the materials, as there are not as many available," Russell said. "We did a lot of papier-mache; there was a lot of newspaper. We had to use house paints instead of school paints. It was basically the same teaching approach [as in the U.S.], but different since I was limited in what I could teach."

Russell focused on American art while teaching in Mexico because it was new and different to her students.

Russell also lived in Japan this summer with a family in Takatori, Shaker's sister city. She went to Japan with six students from Shaker Heights and Beachwood.

Russell was impressed with a number of facts about Japanese culture.

"Artistically," Russell said, "I was intrigued by the Japanese written language. In Japanese, every word is a picture. Our language is much more symbolic. Visually and artistically [Japanese] is much more beautiful. In Japan, a calligrapher studies for 10 to 20 years and develops an individual style."

She also says that each student at Takatori's secondary school is required to take a calligraphy class, writing the thousands of characters in his own style and learning the meaning and development of characters.

"Through this class, you can see the development of language through history," Russell said. "It's an intriguing part of their culture."

Art students at Takatori produced amazingly high quality, technically creative and original works of art, said Russell.

Through her many travels, Russell said she discovered just how small the world is. While teaching at the American School in Monterey , she mentioned to the new principal that she wished to teach at schools with heterogenous student bodies. She happened to mention Shaker Heights High School as a possible location.

"The new principal at Monterey turned out by the brother-in-law of the [assistant principal at Shaker] Richard Vlah," Russell says.

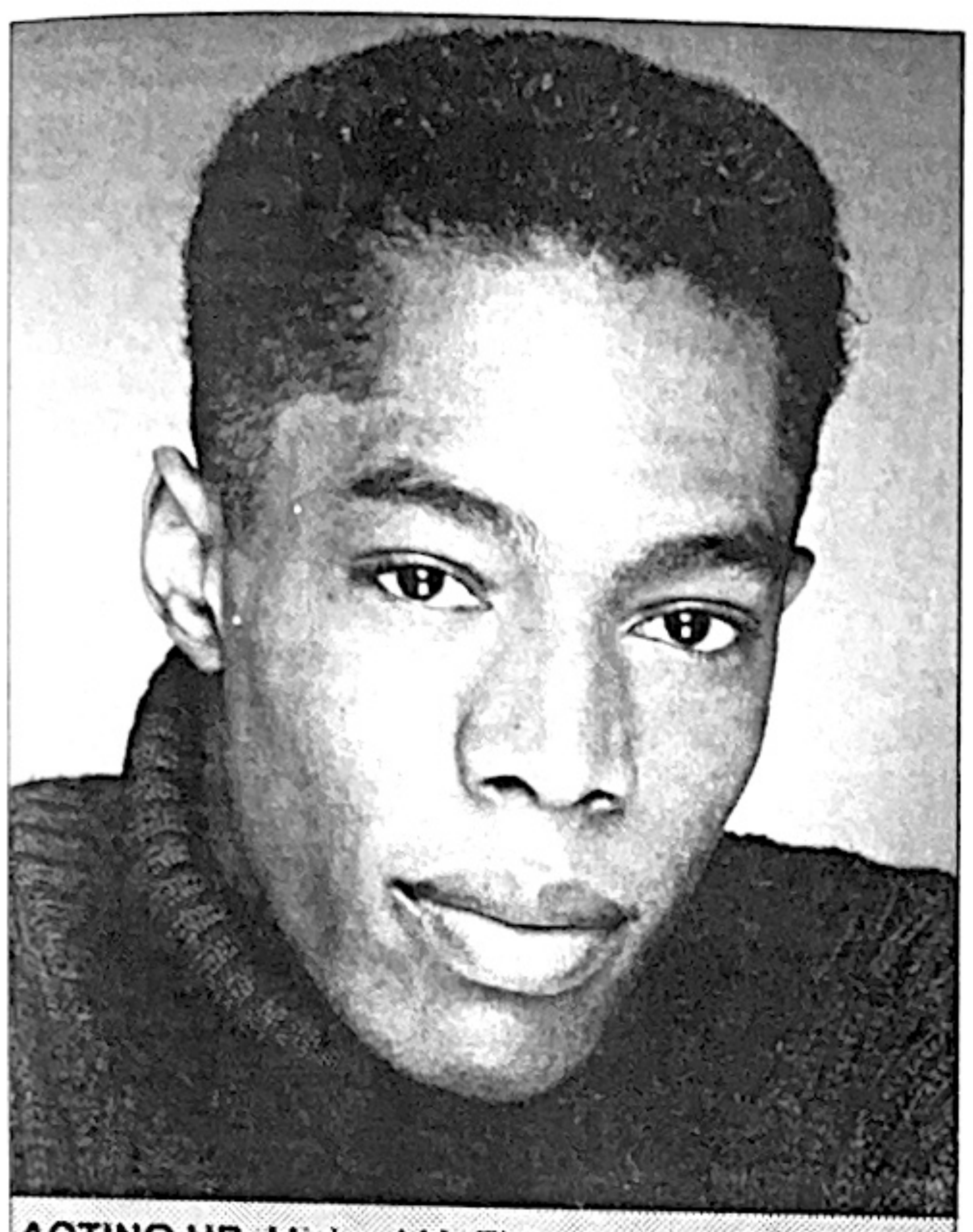
As a result of this conversation, Russell says she wound up getting a teaching assignment at Shaker High.

"I got my foot in the door here by chance, by going to Mexico and ending right back in the city I started from," Russell said.

> “ *I was intrigued by the Japanese language. In Japanese, every word is a picture. Our language is much more symbolic. Visually and artistically [Japanese] is much more beautiful."*
>
> *—Jenny Russell*

On Broadway...

Alum acts out dreams on stage



ACTING UP. Michael McElroy was involved in the theater program at Shaker and is now performing in the Broadway production of *Miss Saigon*..

Photo courtesy of Michael McElroy

BY SARAH STEWART
Feature Editor

"Good evening and welcome to New York City, the Big Apple that never browns. I'll be your server tonight, but keep in mind that while I wait tables, I'm waiting for my big break on Broadway."

Although the starving artist stereotype has been made popular by countless movie scenes, Shaker alum Michael McElroy, class of 85, bypassed the Hollywood image and "made it' on Broadway.

Singing in church choirs and playing the piano as a child led to McElroy's involvement in theater at Woodbury and ultimately the theater program at the high school.

"In high school I decided [acting] was what I seriously wanted to do," McElroy said.

Taking his talents one step closer to a professional career, McElroy attended Carnegie Mellon University on an acting scholarship.

He concluded an intense theater education at Carnegie Mellon by participating in a consortium his senior year. Senior acting students from various universities were brought to New York City and required to perform two scores, while other students, such as McElroy, performed an additional song.

Comparing it to a recruiting process, McElroy said casting agents were present at the consortium, and a few talent agencies showed interest in him.

After free-lancing with various agencies, McElroy decided to sign with a specific talent agency.

Recognizing that some agencies valued only the business aspect of acting, McElroy said he based his choice on personal standards.

"I felt that the agency I chose would be supportive in the business and as a friend," McElroy said.

On the other hand, he said until he was in the business, he did not appreciate the value of an agent.

"Actors can be taken advantage of because they need work," McElroy said. "The agents deal with the money."

> ***Every actor's dream is to go from job to job. Everything I've done has been a step higher."***
>
> ***–Michael McElroy***

After finding an agent and completing work on the New York Shakespeare Festival's *Richard III*, in which Academy Award winner Dalzell Washington performed, McElroy auditioned for three productions including *Grand Hotel*, *Sarafina* and *Miss Saigon*.

"Out of the three, I got *Sarafina*, and I went on tour for six months," McElroy said.

According to McElroy, the cast consisted of a group of South Africans and two Americans, including himself.

After temporarily leaving it to work on the Regional Theater's production of *Fences*, what McElroy considered "a wonderful, excellent play," he returned to *Sarafina*..

"But I made the decision not to go back on tour with them," he said.

"It wasn't [the American's] show. The show was about the South Africans. We weren't allowed to do more than be in the ensemble," McElroy said.

After working for three months and serving as an understudy for four roles in the Off Broadway production of *Prom Queens Unchained*, McElroy was asked to audition for the Broadway production of *Miss Saigon*.

"*Prom Queens Unchained* closed on a Sunday, and the people from *Miss Saigon* called for an audition the next day. I had the job the next day.

"I was very shocked," McElroy said. "I thought [the audition] was just for a replacement down the line."

McElroy attended seven rehearsals in the next two weeks then immediately entered the show.

"When you go out for the first time, it's scary. There's sets that won't move for you.

"I never got nervous because I was too busy worrying about what I had to do," McElroy said.

According to McElroy, *Miss Saigon* opened in London 2 years ago and opened with an American cast on Broadway April 11. Its' $10 million cost makes it the most expensive production of all time, but it earned the most advanced sales at $36 million.

"It's impossible to get a ticket for it unless you try one month in advance," McElroy said.

Miss Saigon is the story of Kim, a Vietnamese prostitute who falls in love with an American soldier during the Vietnam war. Years later, the soldier learns that he fathered her child and returns to Vietnam to see his son. When Kim learns of his arrival, she commits suicide in order to provide her son with a better life with his father in America.

Participating in the show offers a different perspective than watching it, McElroy said.

"When I saw it [before the job] I became involved in the story," McElroy said. "When I knew I had the part it was becoming intellectually involved and watching the part I was going to play."

Although he had auditioned previously for *Miss Saigon*, McElroy said he was glad he did not get the job the first time.

"There's no way, after seven rehearsals, I would have been able to come into a Broadway show," McElroy said.

McElroy said he considers himself very lucky, having done a lot of theater his first year out of college.

"Every actor's dream is to go from job to job. Everything I've done has been a step higher," McElroy said.

"This is definitely what I plan to do for as long as I can. I've been lucky to get pleasure from it, and it also pays the bills," McElroy said.

Summer reading bridges gap between school, vacation

BY KIM RATHBONE
Staff Reporter

Throughout the relaxing days of summer vacation, honors and advanced placement English students had a constant reminder of the upcoming school year - summer reading.

Fifty percent of 330 honors and advanced placement students surveyed were under pressure to complete the summer reading by the start of school.

"Summer is a time for relaxation and for people like me who were away all summer, not for vacation, it was very difficult to complete the selection and then come to school and be assigned an essay the first day. Summer reading makes school a part of your free-time and takes away from vacation," one student surveyed said.

Senior Charley Martin said honors and advanced placement students should have the discipline to read independently.

"People in these high level classes should be able to keep themselves scholarly by reading their own selections over the summer," Martin said.

Although the reading assignment was to be completed by the start of school, almost 25 percent of the students surveyed had not completed their assignment by Aug. 27.

English department head Jon Bender said the students who complete the reading benefit the most.

"[The summer reading] broadens students' thinking. It gives us a common ground to talk and work together," Bender said.

In addition to reading, the senior class was required to record reactions, questions and comments on the books on note cards to be used in class.

Senior Ted Folkman thought the note cards were useless.

"Everyone pretty much faked them because they did not want to interrupt their reading," Folkman said.

Bender said the note cards allowed students a chance to formulate ideas.

About 58 percent of the students surveyed approved of the way summer reading was utilized in their class, but students provided criticism and suggestions.

"It's important to have discussion and follow-up, but I don't like testing on day one," junior Sue Nahm said.

Bender said he wants to have many more writing assignments and oral discussions rather than testing.

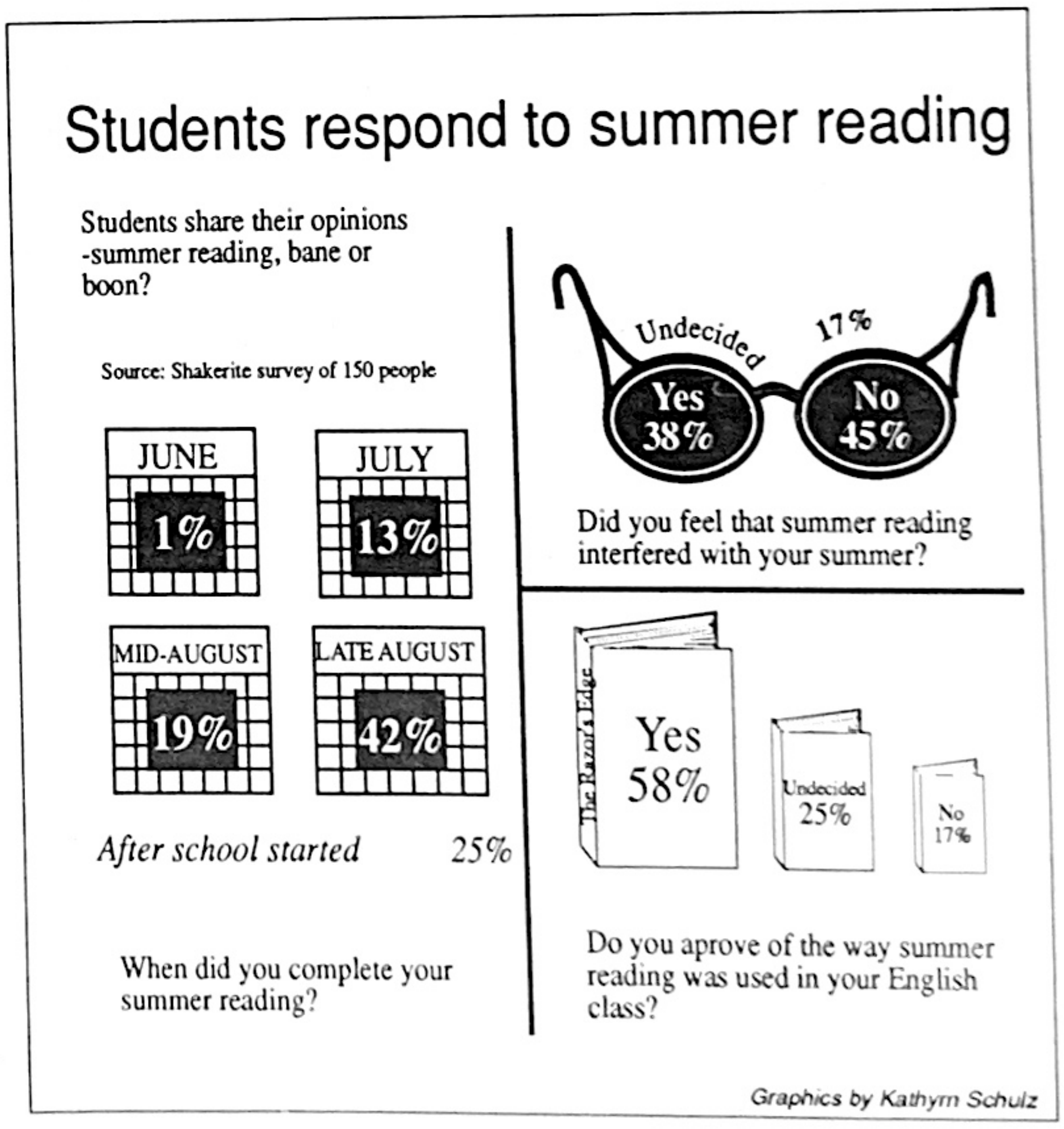
Freshman honors English teacher Marianne Schwartz employs both forms of testing with her students.

"Within the first few days I gave a direct objective test to see if [the students] read. After that we discuss it then write about it," Schwartz said.

The various forms of testing and book choices for the next year are discussed at the end of the year by English teachers from the same grade.

Sophomore Sandy Satchel said students should be able to choose from a list of books and vote in homeroom on the books they thought were best for the next school year.

"This way the kids would be more involved and more willing to do the reading," Satchel said.



Students respond to summer reading

Graphics by Kathyrn Schulz

Sailing through summer, MacLeod studies Atlantic

BY REBECCA DAVIS
Staff Reporter

While the closest many of us came to testing water samples this summer was seeing what color our hair turned from too many hours in the pool, science teacher Rod McLeod's summer was spent testing the depths of the Atlantic Ocean and having many adventures along the way.

Once, MacLeod climbed to the top of a 134-foot sailboat's main mast, above the two crows' nests, until he was 100 feet above the deck.

"To be up there," MacLeod said, shaking his head, "you get a view, but you get a rush, too."

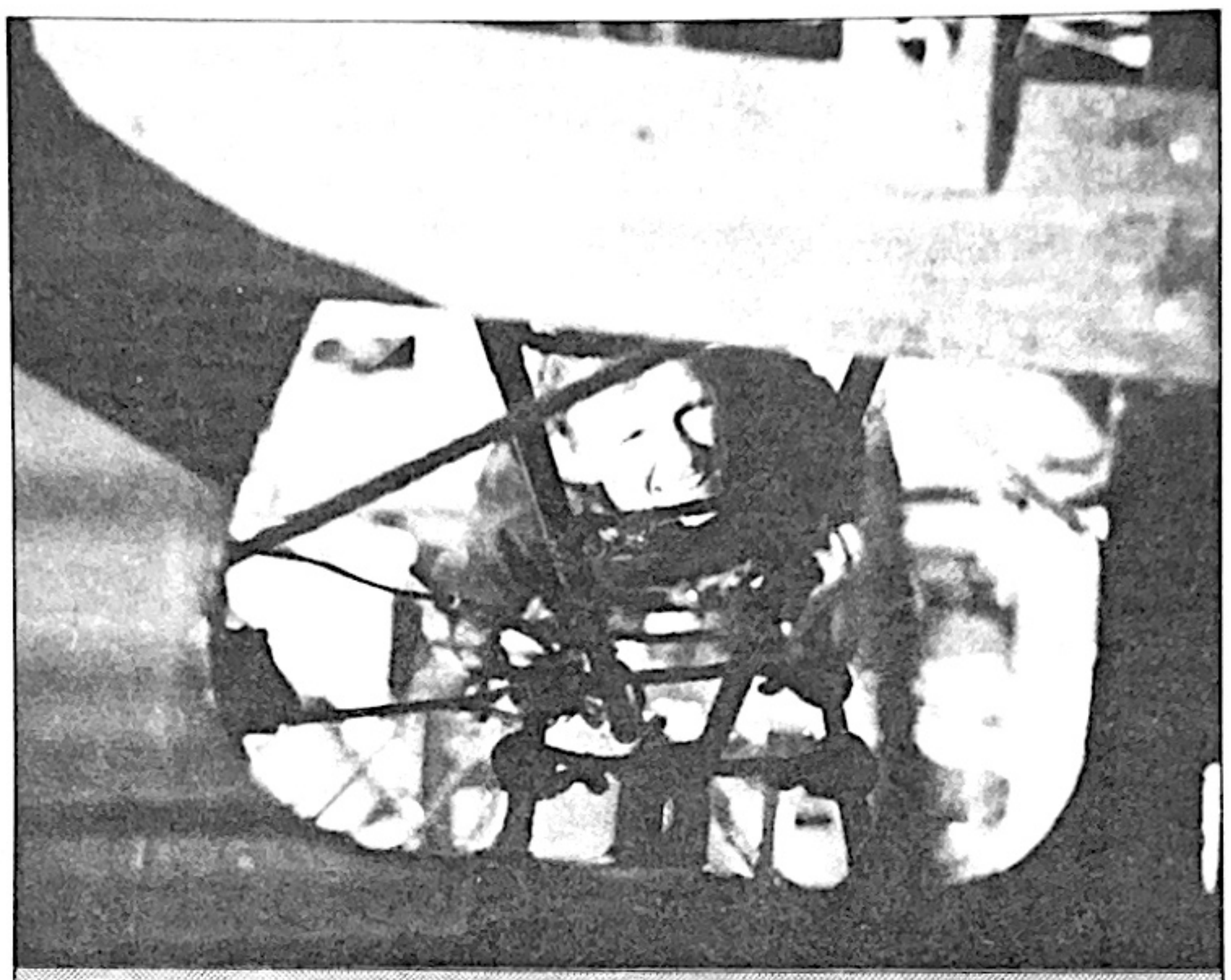
MacLeod's adventures with a group of about 23 math and science teachers, learning about oceanography in a program sponsored by the National Science Foundation, began at Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute in Woods Hole, Massachusetts.

Following three weeks of intense lectures at Woods Hole, MacLeod embarked on the *Craymer*, a 134-foot sailboat and experienced two weeks of "hands on" oceanography, sailing the Atlantic Ocean.

"So we spent about two weeks on [the *Craymer*]," MacLeod began, referring occasionally to the tiny log book he kept throughout the program. "We used sails to do all the stearing; we had to learn sail handling. If there was a wind coming, we had to be able to go over and take care of it within a minute or a minute and a half."

MacLeod emphasized the complete isolation from land and total connection with the sea he felt aboard the *Craymer*.

"We couldn't have a TV, radio, or walkman - [the Woods' Hole crew] wouldn't let us," he said. "You have to be able to listen to the vessel because that's all there is between you and the sea. You're 200 miles away from land, and all you have is that vessel, so you have to know what's going on all the time."



BIRD'S EYE VIEW. MacLeod climbs a ladder to a crow's nest about fifty feet up the rigging of the *Craymer*. This summer he spent two weeks sailing the Atlantic while learning about oceanography.

Photo courtesy of Rod MacLeod

MacLeod talked animatedly about participating in afternoon lectures aboard the vessel, taking rare animal and plant samples from the ocean floor and discovering some truths about the ocean.

"We went swimming where the water was over two miles deep," he said. "Imagine swimming with two miles of water beneath you.

"So we jumped in the water," he continued. "The waves were over four feet high. If you're in the water, and you're bobbing up and down, and there's nothing on the horizon anywhere, and the ship is stopped in the water, you know you're drifting passed the boat. You'd try to grab on to a rope ladder to climb back on the ship, but it would slip out from underneath you. It was scary."

There were many physical challenges, MacLeod said.

"It's a lot of work to [sail the vessel] too," MacLeod said. "The ship is not steady. You keep bashing into bulkheads. Everything is always tipping and moving. You feel physically abused by the vessel. Everyone on the vessel was seasick within the first 36 hours. When you finally got a chance to lay down, your arms were sore."

Despite discomfort, pain and unpleasant living conditions, MacLeod was fascinated by the ocean's beauty.

"I think one of the neatest things was to be on bow watch at night," he said. "It's very solitary. You'd look down in the water and you would see light glowing from organisns that flash when they get disturbed."

The ocean is also mercurial, MacLeod said, and always unpredictable.

"You'd be able to see the stars up overhead," he said. "I saw a lot of shooting stars skipping around out there. All of a sudden you're in a fog and water drips off of everything."

However, bad weather and strenuous duties came in pairs, making MacLeod fear for his life.

"One of the scariest things was galley (kitchen) duty, the eleven to three p.m. shift," he said, gesturing broadly, his eyes sparkling. "One of the tasks is to clean the floor mats. They're about an inch thick and they're quite heavy. You haul them up on deck, scrub them and hose them off with sea water. We were going through a storm, tipping at a 30 degree angle. It felt like we were going to get thrown overboard. And if we get thrown overboard, there's no saving us."

Consequently, MacLeod stressed that this program is not for everyone, and warned that along with adventure and excitement comes discomfort.

"You sleep in your clothes," he explained. "You had to be able to get up and go on watch in the middle of the night. It was kind of rough, from that standpoint. There were times when it was downright miserable. There were times when you just wanted to die out there. There were times that were gut-wrenching.

"But, you live through it," he said, shrugging. "It's scary, but by the time you're done with it, you want to get back in line and do it again."

Bike tour to Cedar Point inspires participants

BY NANAR TABRIZI
Staff Reporter

"Get to the Point!" took on new meaning as a group of cyclists pedaled to Cedar Point, each riding close behind the other in a charitable effort to cut the wind and battle multiple sclerosis.

Shaker representatives, sophomores Karen Fischer and Denny Ives, junior Brandon Sheeran, seniors Clark Pope and Kim Rathbone and physical education teacher Lori Anthony participated in a 150 mile bike tour to Cedar Point on Aug. 24 and 25. Each of the 2,100 participants were required to raise a minimum of $150, all of which will benefit the Northeast Ohio Chapter of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society.

According to Nate Cross, special event coordinator, the program anticipates that a total of $500,000 will be raised for the cause.

Multiple sclerosis is first detected between the ages of 20 through 40. Neither a cause nor a cure for the disease is presently known.

"It's a very cruel disease," Dr. Richard Rarsohoff who works at the Meller Center for Multiple Sclerosis Treatment and Research at the Cleveland Clinic said. "It's a condition that effects the nervous system and causes weaknesses, stiffness, tingling, blindness and bladder problems."

An accumulation of factors drove the Shaker representatives to participate.

"I enjoy biking a lot and it was an opportunity to help with something and enjoy doing it," Sheeran said.

For others, the physicality of the event led to emotional ties.

> ***I enjoy biking a lot, and it was an opportunity to help with something and enjoy doing it."***
>
> ***–Brandon Sheeran***

"The first reason we were in it was for the physical challenge," Rathbone said. "We knew it was a good cause, but we didn't have a personal connection with it. Then we talked to the man with the wheelchair."

Rathbone and Leslie Chase, from Jackson Milton High School, Lake Milton, Ohio, were provided with additional incentive after soliciting, the businesses of Shaker, Beachwood and Cleveland Heights for pledges.

"We talked to this man who handed us a check for $50 and asked if it was enough. Tears were rolling down his cheeks. He said he had something to show us so we'd have a good ride," Rathbone said. "He took us over to the back and showed us his wife's wheel chair. He told us to go through with the tour for her. We had found our reason."

This encounter drove Rathbone and Chase to raise $5200 in pledges. They are now contenders to win a grand prize trip to Hawaii offered by the program to the participant who raises the largest amount of money for the cause. Should they win, Rathbone and Chase intend to give the trip to the man and his wife.

"It was very touching to see that he cared so much about the cause and his wife. So we want him to know that we care as much as he does and what he said really effected us," Rathbone said.

Fischer was amongst those who interacted with one of the participants suffering from multiple sclerosis. Pete, who because of his inability to sit straight, had to lie down in order to pedal a special bicycle.

"[Pete] was just really cheerful," Fischer said. "He's just one of those people you didn't feel sorry for because he was doing so much for himself. He went really slowly but never gave up."

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Environmental concerns increase home, school recycling

Many students willing to make effort to "reduce, reuse"

BY LAURIE GREEN

Staff Reporter

From aluminum cans to old tests, recycling has become as routine a task for students as waking up and eating breakfast.

According to a pamphlet in Shaker's "recycling kit," in 1988 the Ohio State Legislature approved House Bill 592 mandating that by 1994 cities in the state of Ohio "reduce, reuse and recycle" at least 25 percent of solid waste generated and disposed of in landfills.

In cooperation with the new legislation, Shaker Heights established a backyard recycling program for all residents of single and two family homes. Shaker recycles glass, aluminum, plastics, newspapers, motor oil and grass clippings.

Sandra Watson, a spokesperson for Shaker's new recycling hot line, said the new programs have been successful.

"Many people find it difficult to change their habits. However, on the whole, the residents have been very cooperative," Watson said.

According to Service Director Randall DeVaul in the September issue of *Shaker Magazine* , nearly 50 percent of all residents are placing recyclables out for pickup on their regular collection days.

As of July 1, 7,100 tons of rubbish had been sent to the landfill compared to 8,600 tons last year. DeVaul attributes the decrease to both the grass clipping and recycling programs. Through the first six months of the year, 566 tons of recyclables were collected which is 25 percent more than last year.

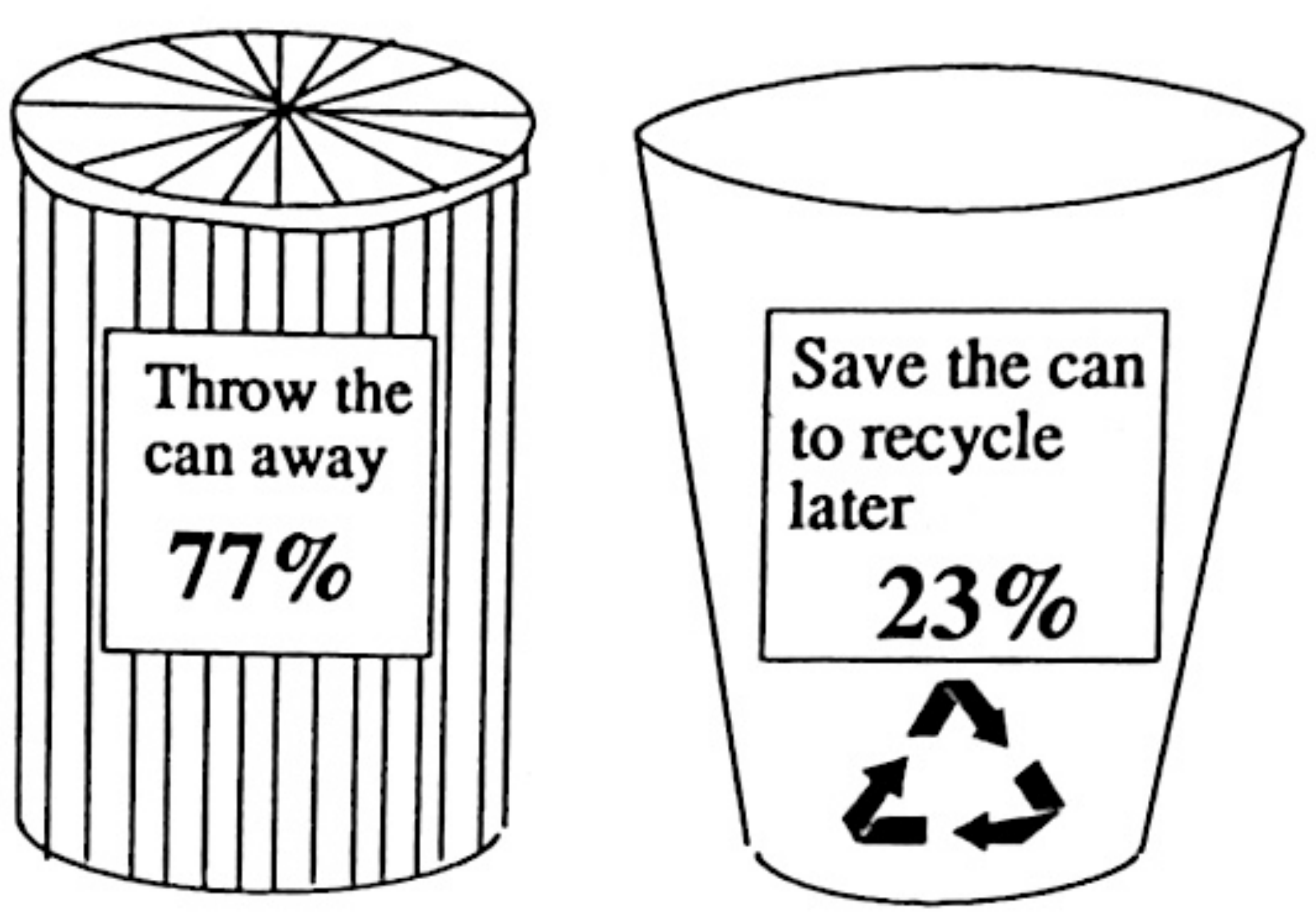
Seventy-two percent of 150 students surveyed said they recycle cans when a recycling bin is easily accessible, while 23 percent said they will save the can to dispose of later if a recycling bin is not available.

Education has been the key to the success of Shaker's recycling program, according to a city report concerning the project. Residents' questions and concerns can be answered on the recycling hot line by the recycling coordinator. Recycling updates appear in a regular newsletter and in *Shaker Magazine.*

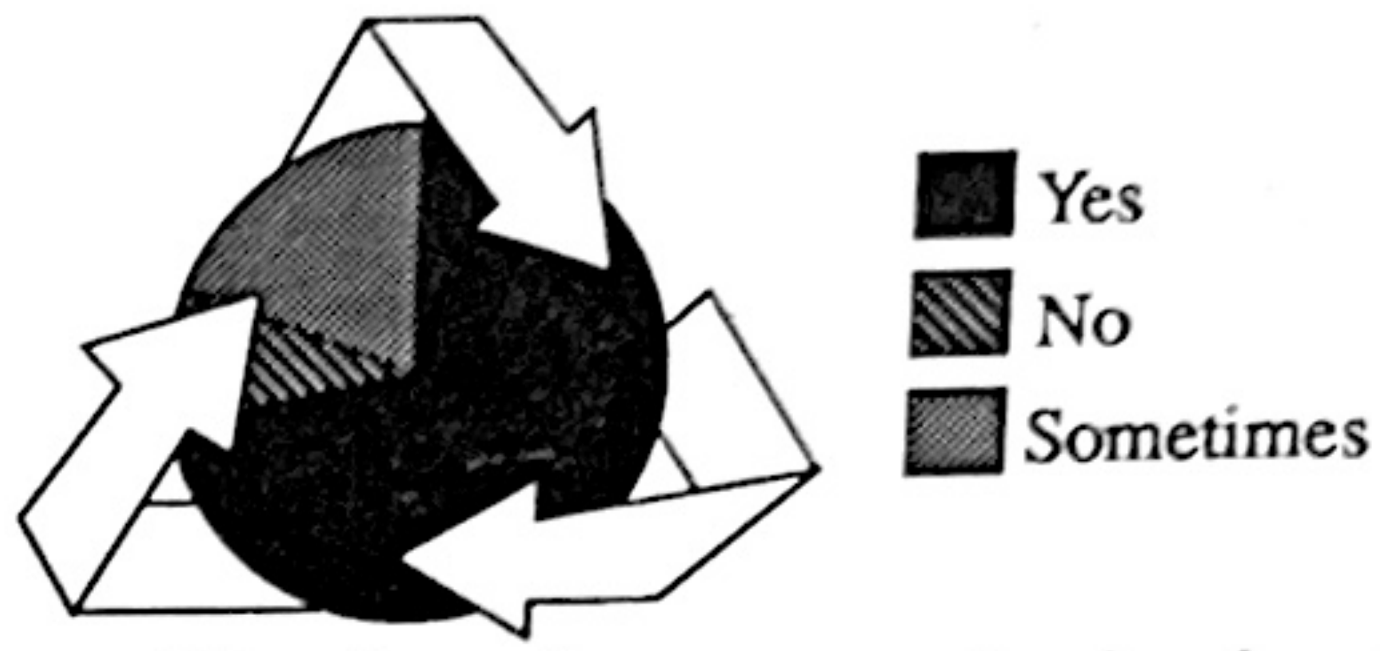
The high school has also joined in with the city's efforts to recycle. Bins for aluminum cans have been placed in the cafeteria and social room. In addition, boxes for recycling paper are in most classrooms in the science wing.

Students support recycling

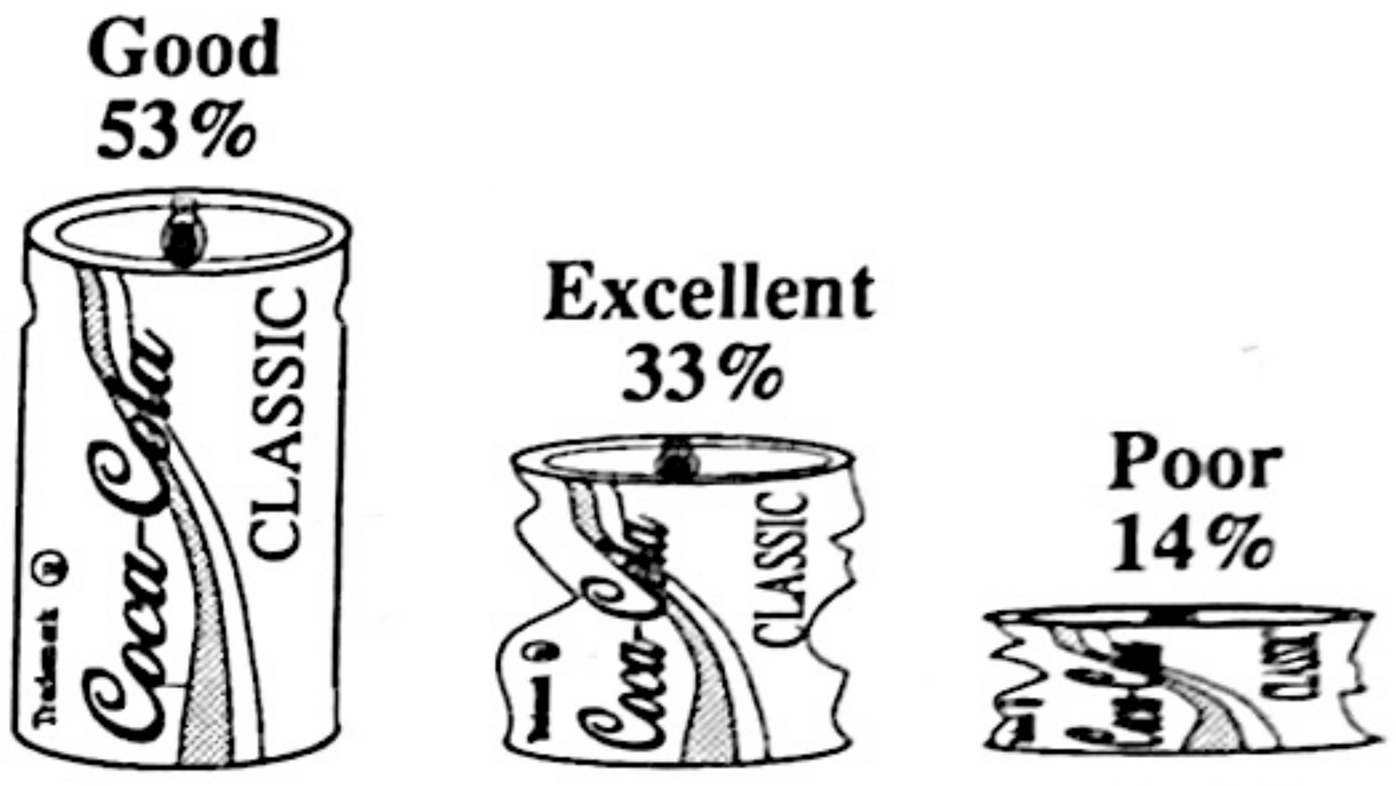
Source: Shakerite survey of 150 students



If a recycling bin is not available when you have an aluminum can to dispose of, do you save the can to recycle later or do you throw it out?



In a public place, do you recycle aluminum cans if a recycling bin is easily accessible?



How would you rate your household's commitment to recycling?

Graphics by Kathyrn Schulz

According to Kelly Jons, adviser to the Environmental Club, there is a new attitude among students about the environment.

"The environment is very high on students' minds," Jons said.

However, the inconvenience of looking for a place to recycle often deters people from participating.

"If I had an aluminum can and couldn't find a place to recycle it, I would throw in the regular garbage instead of waiting to recycle," junior Ominicka Hill said.

According to Hill, this problem could be remedied by having more recycling bins in public places.

Freshman Toby Kramer doesn't mind the rare inconvenience of recycling.

"If I couldn't find a place to recycle an aluminum pop can, I would wait until I got home. The inconvenience isn't as important as the fact that the landfills are filled up," Kramer said.

One student surveyed realized the benefits of recycling but admitted a personal lack of discipline.

"It takes a whole lot of self-motivation. People should try more, although I guess I don't," the anonymous student said.

Many students feel that the school could be more creative in improving its recycling efforts.

"We could have drink box recycling and sell recycled lunch bags in the cafeteria," Kramer said.

"My family recycles newspapers at the middle school, and a program like that would probably work well in the high school," sophomore Tasha Kay said.

Rachel Lissauer, junior member of the Environmental Club, said the media has influenced people to recycle.

"Recycling efforts have increased in the past couple of years because of the increased coverage of the environment's problems in the media," Lissauer said.

Others attribute society's new founded environmental concern to the 20th anniversary of Earth Day which was in April 1990.

"The 20th anniversary of Earth Day made people more conscious of the problems and entered recycling into the mainstream," senior Jennifer Margulies said.

According to junior Karen Sykora, people are recycling because of the drastic need to do so.

"We have come to the point of crisis," Sykora said.

Junior Beth Troia agrees recycling is an issue people must commit themselves to and participate in each day.

"People are starting to realize that if they continue to destroy the planet they won't have anywhere to live," Troia said.

"It's easy to get in the habit [of recycling], and it becomes a hard habit to break," senior Evan Makela said.

...And then came school

BY SARAH STEWART

Feature Editor

COMMENTARY

Each year as summer approaches, I remind myself to savor every moment of vacation. Each year, I forget.

Finals begin and end, and I'm left alone with two months of endless freedom in which I have big plans to sit around and gloat about what I don't have to do anymore.

In eighth grade, my parents' graduation gift to me was a hammock, with plenty of room for lounging, but over the last four years it's had more hours of solitude than I have.

After squeezing my life into class periods and homework slots for months, it would seem that I would welcome the unstructured schedule summer has to offer, but instead the squeeze continues. The difference is, I accomplish nothing.

Without sounding like a "what I did this summer" essay, I'll tell you that I spent a lot of time and energy doing virtually nothing. I went out with my friends almost every night and baby sat too much, but besides that, I can't remember how I filled my days.

My parents would say that I slept them away, but all I know is that I forgot to remember I wasn't in school; if we were graded on summer, I failed.

The day before school started, I tried to redeem myself by lying down on the cool grass and staring up into the summer sky, but the clouds started to form letters, and they told me it was too late.

I had overlooked the endless day, and now I was going to pay.

Falling asleep the night before school started, I faced up to my failure and admitted that the summer had been wasted. I had let the sun set without catching its rays, the flowers wilt without appreciating their beauty and allowed my poetic skills to continue to diminish.

The summer had slipped by, and there was nothing I could do about it.

I admit that there were even a few moments when I longed to do schoolwork, hoping to reclaim the scholarly habits I possessed during the year.

But school started soon enough and nothing seemed to have changed. Walking through those double doors on the first day, I realized that the long halls were still stuffy, the teachers looked the same and even the freshmen seemed as if they belonged. As far as I could tell, this year was to be only a continuation of the previous year with a few long weekends and a new cafeteria thrown in for variety.

Laziness takes more exertion than it would seem, so maybe if we were given more practise during the school year...

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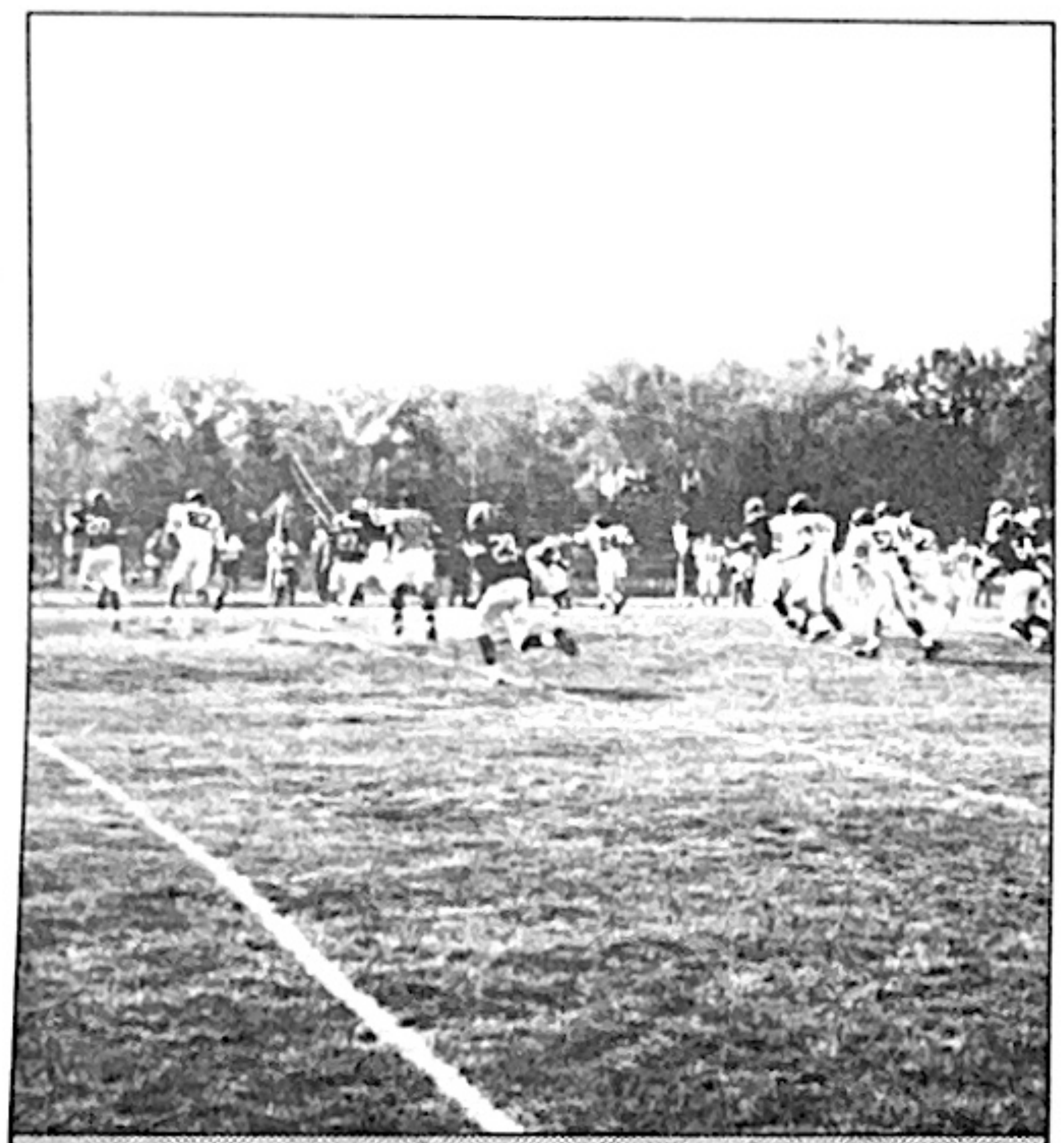
Team snaps 17–game losing streak...

Football rolls over Parma 14-6



ON THE MOVE. The varsity football team scrimmages in preparation for last Saturday's victory over Parma.

Shakerite file photo

BY MARK SMITH
Staff Reporter

Varsity football coach Mark Leimsieder said that this year's team is inexperienced, but will have a better record than last year's dismal 0-10.

"This year we have a number of young men who played last year and know what to expect," Leimsieder said.

The coach believes that this is just one of many optimistic signs that will hopefully improve the team's record this year.

However, Shaker lost its season opener to Holy Name.

"We lost because of a very good Holy Name team," he said.

Holy Name was ranked ninth in the Plain Dealer Top 30 poll of varsity football teams across northeast Ohio the week of September 8-14.

But Leimsieder noted that the team showed some signs of life against 30th-ranked Cleveland Central Catholic, the first home game of the year, despite losing 30-6.

"Against Cleveland Central Catholic, we were able to move the ball," Leimsieder said. "Unfortunately, the game later turned against us."

Shaker failed to score against Central Catholic after halftime. The Red Raider's only touchdown occurred near the end of the first half on a passing play.

According to Leimsieder, the main problem with the team is inexperience. He noted that only two ends from last year have returned.

"One problem is the fact that many students from last year quit...but I think our players are going to improve with experience," he said.

He also mentioned another problem.

"No one is interested in playing varsity football at Shaker," Leimsieder said.

One of his top offensive players, Maurice Dodson, is out with a bad ankle which has impeded improvement of the team's performance.

Juniors Travis Kinnebrew, Ted Green and Doug Rosenbaum, and senior Robert Tansmore were cited by Leimsieder as stand-outs on the team.

Before Saturday, Leimsieder predicted that his club would beat Parma. Leimsieder was right, as the Raiders were victorious for their first victory, 14–6.

"Our key was that we jumped out early," he said. "Once you're up, you become psychologically confident."

Leimsieder said that the previous losses of the season were attributed to falling behind early.

"When the other team scores first, it is tough to envision victory from behind," he said.

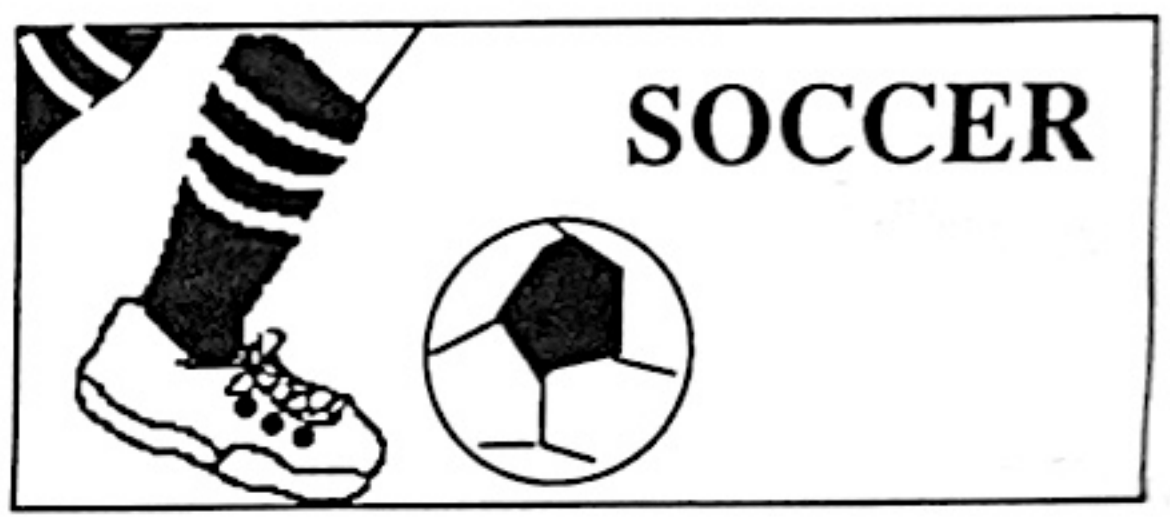
Leimsieder mentioned that this year's team has the characteristics needed to win football games.

"Enthusiasm, dedication and hard work are strong points that if continued will definitely be beneficial," he said.

HUNTED DOWN. While waiting for his opponent to reach him, junior Jeff Ngo prepares to continue dribbling.

photo courtesy of Gristmill

Soccer team off to fast start...as usual



BY JEFF EPSTEIN
Staff Reporter

The Red Raider mens soccer team is off to a strong start after early victories against Lake Catholic and Chagrin Falls.

"We could be a sleeper in the league," head coach Ernest Welsch said. "The team has improved dramatically since the start of the season."

Losses have come at the hands of Bay, 3-2, and Hudson, 1-0. Players were disappointed in the Hudson game, which according to several players, they should have won.

The team recently tied Western Reserve Academy in a very competitive game, according to Welsch.

The Raiders participate in the nine–team Greater Cleveland Eastern Conference, and expect to do fairly well. According to Welsch, the top teams in the league this year include University School, Beachwood, Shaker and Hawken.

"We expect to win the league," junior Jeff Ngo said.

Welsch said that there are several keys to success this year.

"We need to learn a little more how to play like a team...being relentless—always making runs and pestering on defense is a key," he said.

Junior Jaime Porras agreed with Welsch.

"Once we get it together, when everyone's working hard and we have everyone in the right position, we should be really good," he said.

Last year's team made it to the sectional finals, and this year Porras thought they will go further because the competition is not as heavy.

Welsch implemented a new system of formations and strategy this year to deal with a team smaller in size than last year's. He said that the team is still getting used to the system, causing them trouble.

Pirouz said that the new system is working for the team.

"It's worked very well—our main goal has been to run a lot," he said.

The team has been practicing since the beginning of August, and according to Welsch has been a super bunch of kids who have worked extremely hard.

"We've got the opportunity to go very far if we stay focused," Pirouz said.

Team captains are seniors Caleb Willis, Matt Fader and Nathan Wisneski.

"We need to keep improving a little bit each week and we'll keep getting better," Welsch said.

Women running away with winning record

BY MELISSA MILLER
Staff Reporter

The all-new women's cross-country team is ready to run over the competition this season.

There are some major differences in this year's team. Last year there was only one runner on the team.

CROSS
COUNTRY

"There was no team last year and this year there is both a team and a future," Coach Henry Woodard said.

In fact, Woodard is a new addition to the team. This is his first year as head coach.

"Mr. Woodard is a great coach. He explains every workout which gives you reasons why," senior Michelle Wilson said.

Though this year's team is young, Wilson did not see this as a weak point.

"Being young, they are eager to learn and they are not afraid of the sport," Wilson said.

Woodard considered this year as a building block for the future.

"This is a building year but we do hope to be a strong team by the end of the season," he said.

One point that works toward the girls' advantage, however, is their closeness.

"Sometimes there is a lack of determination, but we always try to push each other and tell each other that we can do it," sophomore LaTasha Giles said.

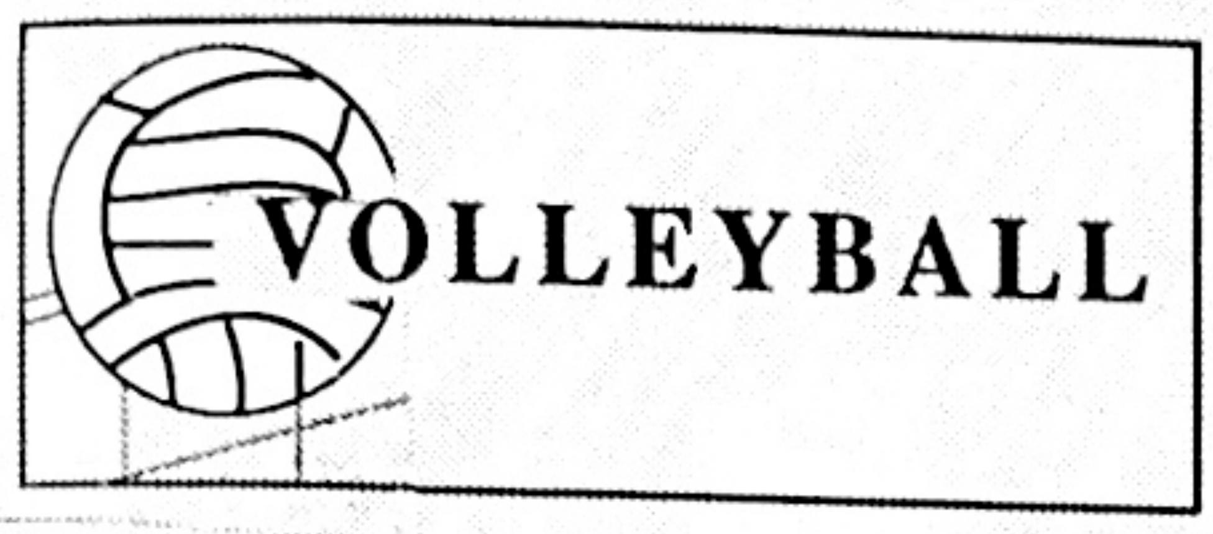
According to Woodard, several positive qualities of the runners will stengthen the team.

"...it is their exuberance, their team spirit and their closeness. They really like each other and always pull each other through," he said.

Shakerite artwork by Jeff Michel

Volleyball serves up excellent season

BY CARRIE LYONS
Staff Reporter



Hard work, dedication and motivation, the keys to success in many sports, have played a large role in the women's volleyball team's early success.

"I attribute our early success to having started open gym and practice in May... the hard work begun in summer has finally paid off," coach David Lubinger said.

Team members also cite the team's improved confidence as well as the two assistant coaches, Kerry Spicer and Becky Dawes, as motivating factors.

"We have great coaching, the assistant coaches especially keep us excited, pumped and basically in every game," senior Tracey Guice said.

In a league which includes such competitive teams as Cleveland Heights, Normandy and Lakewood, Spicer considers Shaker as a "sleeper team."

"We haven't taken any team lightly. We treat each team as though they can beat us. Each team is a different sit, and any given sit can beat us," Spicer said. "The team's greatest strength is that we play as a team, win as a team, and lose as a team. Everyone pushes each other, no one is better than anyone else."

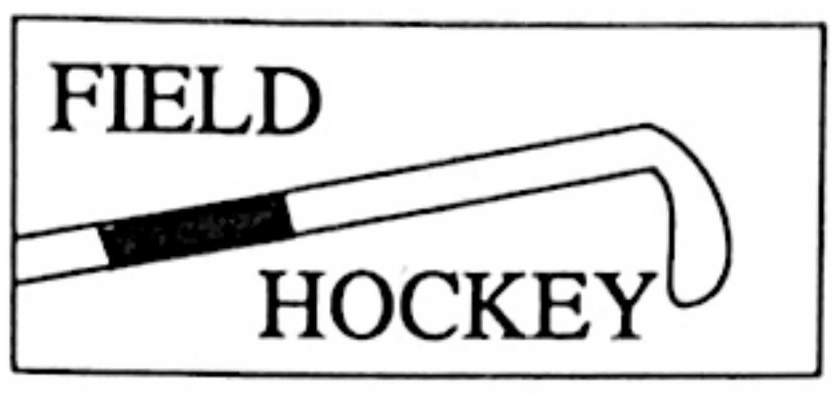
As for goals, many players expect the team to be competitive in the L.E.L. and to have a shot at being district champions.

""I expect a lot out of the girls. They've been together awhile. I expect they can have a winning season," coach Lubinger said.

"We plan on improving with each game, as long as we improve on our skills both as a team and individually. It doesn't matter if we win or lose," Spicer said.

Team's enthusiasm paves road to victories

BY CLAY WEINER
Staff Reporter



Each year the varsity field hockey team assembles a field full of outgoing players ready to slash and hack the competition en route to victory. This year is no exception—the varsity field hockey team once again is off to a fast start, with only one loss in seven games.

In a sport in which a team's momentum is determined by their mental intensity, the team agrees that their abnormal enthusiam and spirit is crucial for success.

"I value our energy; it becomes an intimidator to the opponent and shows the team's dedication to field hockey," senior Leah Thornton said.

Coach Linda Betley is convinced that concentration and mental intensity are the factors that win games. Betley said the team is one of the most talented she has ever coached.

"These girls have unlimited potential. I'm here to help them unleash their strengths and prove something to themselves on the field," Betley said.

According to Betley, she and her staff, Marilyn Dynys, Chris Weyn and Nancy Salkin, make it their duty to ensure the team's success.

"When I see the team losing their focus during a match I tell them to bear down and perform. If we can push the ball up the field and always direct the team in a positive direction, everything will go well," Betley said.

The squad has an optimistic outlook on this season. Senior Jackie Bridges had several words of wisdom for her teammates.

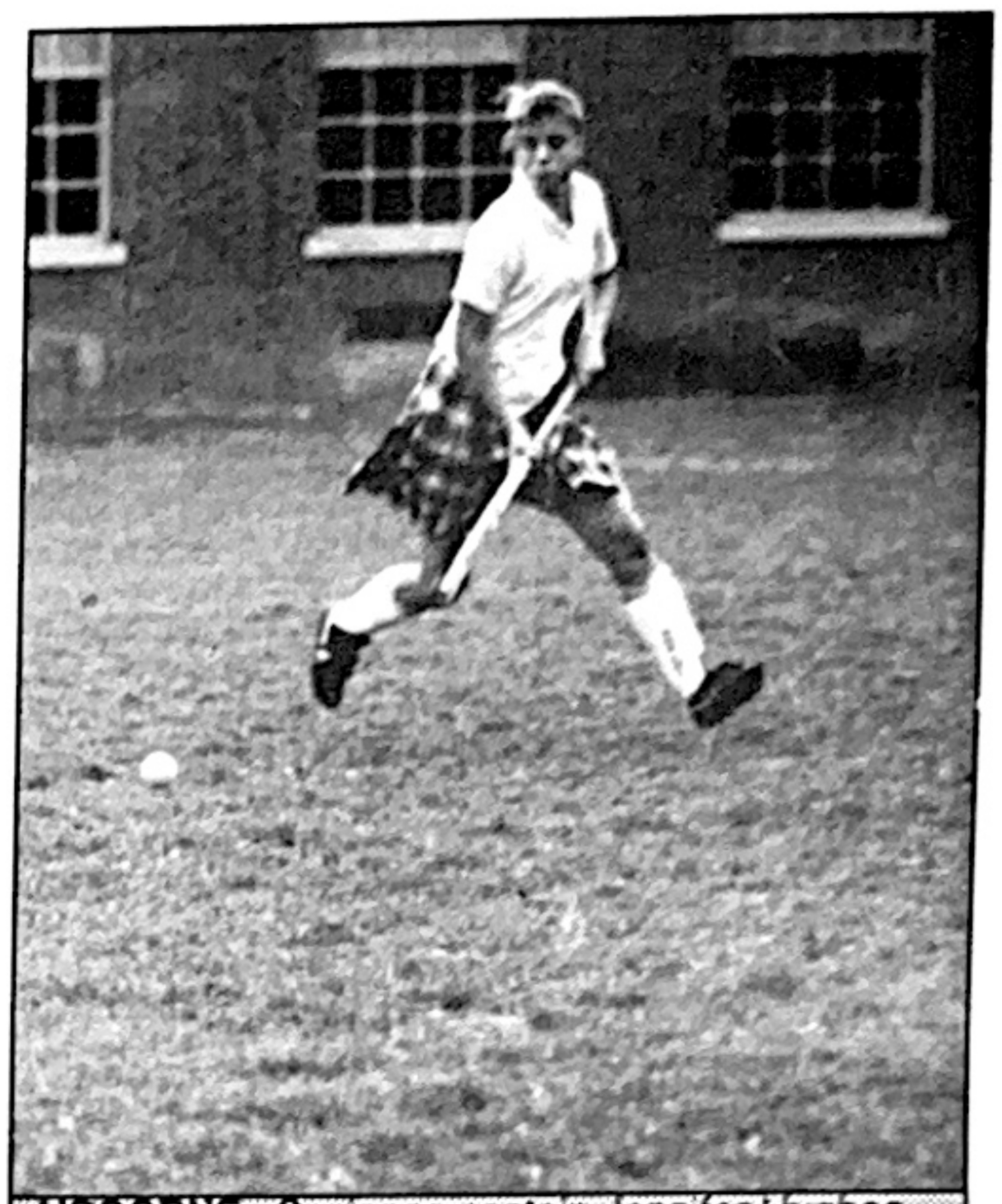
"Our goal is to return to States. To accomplish it we must have positive team leadership and improve our overall communication. I believe whatever this team puts its mind to we can achieve," she said.

Junior Katie Andrews believed the team can return to state competition.

"Despite our recent defensive injuries, I think our team has the ability to recover," she said. "Our offense has the strength to outscore our opponents all the way to States."

For these women, each game is filled with spirit and enthusiasm.

"It's a rough sport—somebody rough probably invented it. We're a rough bunch of women, so that's why we play. To play something peaceful just would not be us, " she said.


AIRBORNE. Senior co-captain Jennifer Hughes seemingly flies toward the ball, trying to score against Hathaway Brown.
Shakerite file photo

Second season helping womens soccer

BY KAREN VAN VALKENBURG
Staff Reporter

In only their second season, the womens soccer team is overcoming inexperience and ready to face their opponents.

"This season is going to be better than last year," sophomore Becky Finch said.

At the first tryout, 39 girls showed up at the Tri-C Eastern Campus, the team's home field, prepared to play. Twenty were chosen for the varsity team, including co-captains Gwen Johnson and Maureen Gallagher.

Since this is only the second season for womens soccer, the team lacks experience, but according to coach Baird Wiehe the team's strong point is their willingness to learn.

To make up for its inexperience, the team has shown an extraordinary amount of spirit.

"We have a lot of spirit and we work well together," Johnson said.

All the team members seem to be working well together and having a good time.

"I think our team is improving, and I'm having a lot of fun," freshman Toby Kramer said.

This year the team has a positive attitude and is putting forth a more concentrated effort.

"I think that our season will have more wins than last year because of our dedication," sophomore Erica Resnik said.

HALFTIME STRATEGY. During a recent game, Coach Wiehe plans the second-half attack for his team.
Shakerite file photo

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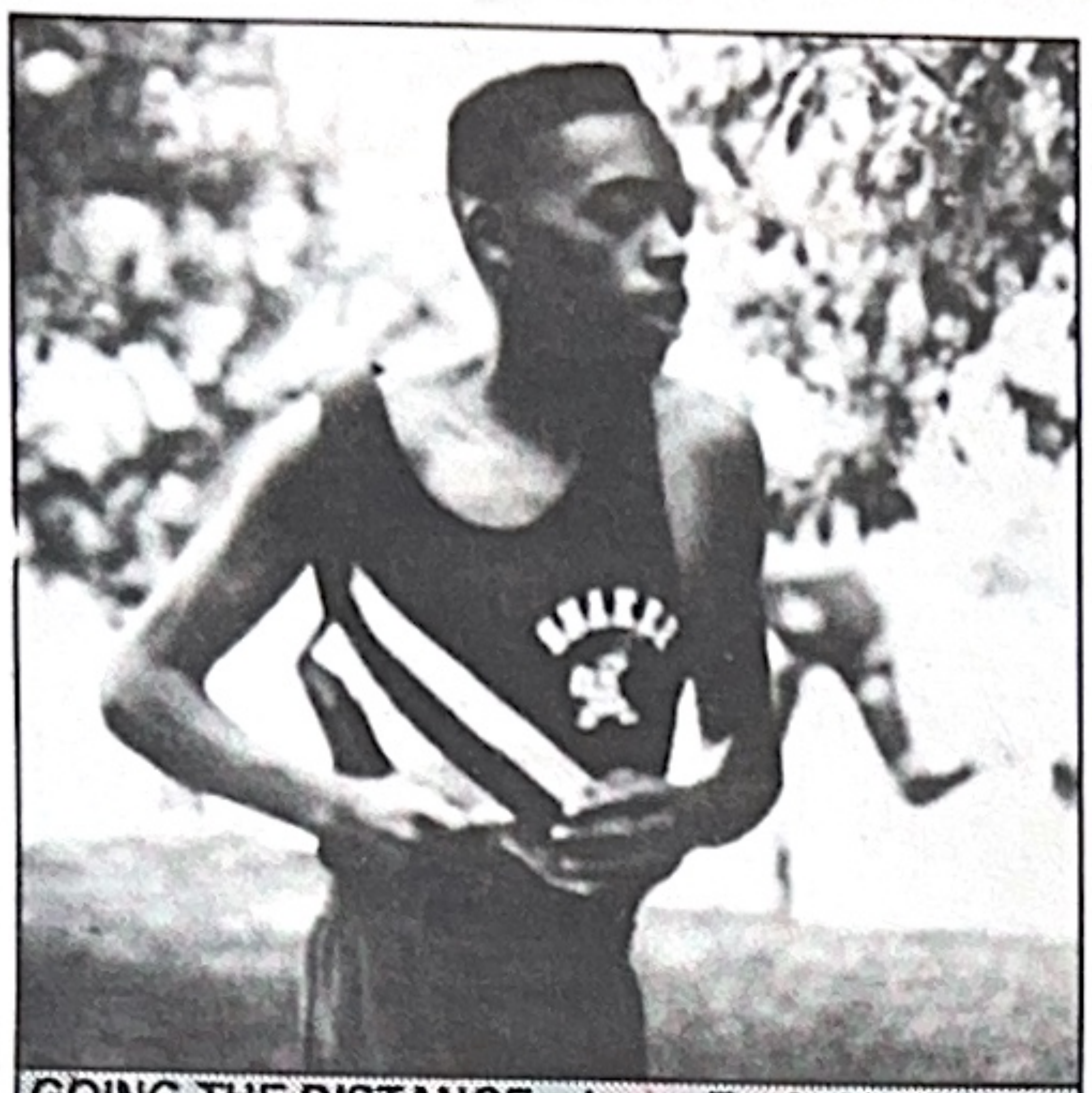
Men's cross country searching for first win



GOING THE DISTANCE. Junior Terrin Martin leads the pack to the finish line during a recent meet. *Shakerite file photo*

BY MELISSA MILLER
Staff Reporter

The mens cross-country team has high expectations for this season.

"We are hoping to do well in the league and send some runners to districts and regionals and possibly States," coach Charles Richards said.

According to Richards the strength of the team lies in the top runners, senior captain Jeremy Kahn and sophomore Ryan Holliday.

This year the team has other goals besides just winning the L.E.L.

"We want to win the L.E.L. but we also want to run our personal best," sophomore Terrin Martin said.

To be the best team possible there are some obstacles they must overcome.

"All the members must be more committed because 90 percent of running is mental," junior Joel Freimuth said.

Holliday feels that the team can reach its goals of doing well in the L.E.L. because of the coach.

"He works us hard and expects a lot," Holliday said.

Richards has high hopes for his runners.

"They will come together with grouping, but they are a happy group with good spirit and they work hard and it will be a good year and team," he said.

Red Raider
VARSITY WRAP-UP

Team	Record*	Next Game
Mens Soccer	5–2–1	Sept. 28 (Solon)
Womens Soccer	2–6–1	Sept. 28 (at Chagrin Falls)
Football	1–3	Sept. 28 (at Valley Forge)
Mens Cross Country	0–6	Sept. 28 (at Woodridge Invit.)
Womens Cross Country	4–2	Sept. 28 (at Woodridge Invit.)
Volleyball	7–3	Oct. 1 (at Cleve. Hts.)
Field Hockey	4–1–2	Oct. 2 (at Stow)
Womens Tennis	11–5	Sept. 27 (Hawken)
Golf	13–8	Oct. 2 (Hawken, Twinsburg)

** = as of Sept. 24*

Red Raiders need our support

SPORTS COLUMN

BY ANTHONY SWERTLOFF
Sports Editor

Once again, another fall pep rally is behind us, yet a question still remains—what was its purpose?

To some people, these festivities are the perfect alternative to having class. After all, we do get to miss that dreaded period of math, English or science.

However, these rallies are not designed to placate our zest for a break from school. There must be something more to them.

Does the administration coordinate these functions to raise class spirit? Doubtful. Year after year, classes have fought and debated over which one owns complete superiority. Of course, class banners in this case are essential, but not at a rally for sports teams.

The intensity of our class spirit does not reflect our appreciation for our athletic clubs. So, these rallies are not for the benefit of individual classes, but rather for something better.

Athletic excellence has always been a pride of this high school. To continue our success, our teams need support. Currently, they lack it. It must not be forgotten that they are competing to boost this school's standings in the scholastic sports world.

Without spectators, teams can lose their incentive to win. They need our help, especially to justify that their efforts are worthwhile, whether win or lose.

The pep rally is our chance, as on-lookers, to show our appreciation. We can raise class spirit or skip classes elsewhere. The rallies should be soley for athletic teams.

How do we go about this? We need help from the administration. They must let each team be seen, by allowing them onto the track when announced.

Team captains should talk and let us know of any secret talents or strategies they have to pulverize our arch-rivals.

As fans, booing our teams is not appropriate. Even if some rarely see the light of victory, we should respect their efforts.

Pep rallies are our only school-supported forms of appreciation during the year. They suggest a continual, long-ranged support, meaning that we should attend sporting events and cheer on our Red Raiders.

With this in mind, I'll see you at the games.

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